

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: March 11, 2021 8:00 AM

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COMMENTS FOR: HB 3

Frank Holman

All concerned citizens.

Austin, TX

HB 3 needs to be amended. Should a Executive Order (EO) need to be extended longer than the initial 30 days, the Governor shall call a special session for the Texas Legislator to review and approve or disprove the need of extending the EO past 30 days.

Elizabeth Salazar

Self

Edinburg, TX

We lost power February 15, 2021 at 3:52 am and we were trying to remain calm while keeping up with the news. Our family consists of two parents, two school aged children and one 4-month-old baby. As it began to get colder in our apartment, we also noticed our internet service on our phones was becoming spotty. We decided we weren't going to wait any longer and were very fortunate to find a hotel room in a neighboring city. We packed up overnight bags and made our way to the hotel. Our power was completely out till Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7:45 am. We lost food in our refrigerator. We didn't return home till Friday, February 19, 2021 because we didn't want to risk the power going out again.

Justin Smith

Self, family, and other Texans

Aurora, TX

Governors should never have this kind of power over citizens, even in emergency situations. The legislature must be involved, and we expect our legislators to stand up for the Texas Constitution and the US Constitution to protect citizens against executive overreach.

The Texas Constitution needs to be protected and upheld, and Texans need to be protected from over zealous state and local government tyrants.

Here are several reasons to oppose this legislation:

HB3 Doubles down on the governor's executive orders by putting into law what has already been done under "emergency" orders, which we believe are unconstitutional

HB3 Gives federal government more power by mandating that Texas businesses comply with orders from CDC, an organization which is highly political and controlled by Washington DC.

HB3 Is opposed by the RPT Legislative Priorities Committee, even though curbing executive powers is one of their priorities.

HB3 Calls for "pandemic disasters" to last only 30 days but allows the governor to renew indefinitely until the legislature intervenes. However – if the legislature is not in session, there will be no intervention because only the Governor can call a special session. (the exact situation we have been protesting for the past 12 months). HB3 does nothing to address this situation when the Legislature is not in session, and the Governor is left unchecked.

HB3 Requires in the business liability section that businesses comply with "federal, state, and local laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations", which puts them at the mercy of federal regulators and local government tyrants.

HB3 Increases the governor's strength to file executive orders rather than curbing executive powers.

HB3 Addresses only pandemics – no revision for other types of disasters, which could bring about similar executive over reach.

Some will tell us that there are good things in there – things like 2nd Amendment protections, protections for houses of worship, protection against closures by local authorities and liability protections. But those are not reason enough to accept all the flaws of this bill. Those good things can be addressed in other bills, and indeed – many other bills have already been filed regarding those issues.

Monica Wagner

Self / Industrial Project Manager - petrochemical industry

SANTA FE, TX

Re: Snowcane After listening to much of the 2 day State Affairs and Energy Resources joint hearing on the statewide electrical blackouts, I wanted to make the following comments to the committee members for your consideration as you contemplate legislation. 1) Houston seemed to bear the brunt of the blackouts, but being a Texan first, I am glad that the Houston outages were, in part, able to help protect power to the colder, more frozen regions upstate. However, I think this was just dumb luck. Per testimony on day 1, the industry had failed to imagine a scenario where Texas would be so cold for so long across the entire state. Rolling blackout and controlled blackout areas can be predicted, and they should be reviewed alongside expected ambient weather conditions (with a duration twice as long as the Feb. 2021 event) in future PUC and ERCOT tabletop exercises. 2) I'd bet that Emergency Plans did exist, but due to this failure to imagine such a widespread, wintertime outage scenario with associated large shed of electricity, the plans were insufficient. They imagined a much lower level of load shed. Emergency load shed plans should contain steps that would provide a controlled, systematic shutdown of the entire state grid (perhaps the blackout restart procedure in reverse) and would take into consideration how to optimize use of UFRs and ancillary services to protect the grid. [I wonder if all available ancillary services were running, could some controlled outages have been converted to rolling outages?] These plans need to assume an increase in energy usage overnight as heaters run harder to maintain the same setpoint and as wind slows down, decreasing generation. 3) As the weather warmed up, crews were able to get to the wells and request electricity. If the snow and ice storm had been longer, TXDOT would likely have been overwhelmed and may have become another weak link. 4) In the Houston area, the lack of power resulted in a lack of fuel and food availability. The Texas City Buccee's has a generator, presumably to come off the grid at \$9,000/MWh pricing but their food and fuel supply line was stretched thin during the event. Had the area roads been impassable for much longer, we would have run out of fuel to run heaters in vehicles and fuel to run generators. Warming centers would have been inaccessible. Most importantly, grocery stores could not have reopened, cleaned, and restocked, and food/water shortages would have had a much more significant impact. We failed to imagine a snowcane. Is it time to make sure the PUC and ERCOT imagine a blizzard? Thank you for reading.

Dawn Martin

self

Eules, TX

I am STRONGLY opposed to HB3 by Burrows.

From the warnings of Rev. John Cotton, a Puritan preacher, do not give leaders any power which you would not want your worst enemy to possess.

Both US & State Constitutions indicate Civil Government is derived by the CONSENT of WE THE PEOPLE and power given to them BY THE PEOPLE and FOR THE PEOPLE.

Government cannot take power upon themselves which you nor I can take upon ourselves against our neighbors. I cannot force nor block one from healthcare.

Nor take away their right to make a living nor force them to earn one

Protecting our RIGHTS is the goal of the American government, EVEN IN AN EMERGENCY! The coronavirus has proven to be less than 1% of annual deaths. CDC numbers suggest that only SIX percent of the recorded “covid deaths” are actually DUE to covid! The number one killer in America is heart disease at 650,000! Cancer is right behind at 600,000.

Government has fast forwarded an agenda that has weaponized our disease care system. Forcing elderly to remain in facilities locked up away from their families, afraid and dying alone. Forced families to stay locked in their homes for months. Forced businesses closed never to reopen again, causing families to lose their livelihood. Forced masks that have very little scientific evidence showing they stop the spread of a .05 micron virus. Flimsy, over-worn, homemade masks do nothing but instill fear and control of the masses at best and at worse, create more health conditions than the virus itself. Suicide and Mental Health issues are also on the rise!

In March 2020 they said, “it’s just 2 weeks to flatten the curve, give our hospitals time to prepare, it won’t be long!” That was OVER A YEAR AGO! Goal posts kept moving further down the field every single month. As the expiration date of mandates drew near, tyrannical government extended them way beyond any presumed legal authority!

These mandates are PRETEND LAW, Unconstitutional and illegal. ONLY the legislative branch can create law and powers CANNOT be passed to another branch! Article 1, Section 29 of the Texas Constitution says, “all laws contrary thereto, or to the following provisions, shall be void.” Therefore, Texas State Emergency Code is NULL & VOID as it is repugnant to the US & State Constitutions. Allowing HB3 to be passed not only is repugnant to the Texas Constitution, but is disastrous to Texas Citizens’ religious freedoms, medical autonomy and strongly held beliefs of liberty and self-governance.

Governors, Judges, Mayors and law enforcement have evidenced their disrespect and disregard for the rule of law and their OATHs by directly violating Constitutional provisions. Emergency code should be to HELP maintain our rights, NOT restrict nor take them away!

Respect the rights of Texas Citizens and DENY any further tyrannical abilities by the Governor or any other local authority. Protect our RIGHTS not Governments illegal authority under the disguise of an emergency.

Stephanie Brewer

Self and all fellow Texans! Manager

Haslet, TX

My comments have been sent - feel free to adapt for your own:

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Sharon Brammer

Self

Abilene, TX

State and local government officials need to be held responsible

We the people will no longer sit back and not be heard. Our state and local government officials failed the people in 2011! A criminal offense should be created to avoid thus from happening again. Politicians should not be allowed to get rich at the expense if the American people

David Watson

David Watson

FORT WORTH, TX

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Wanda Webb, Mrs.

Self/Retired

Lumberton, TX

I am very concerned that this proposed bill is even being discussed and debated.

The past year has been a stain on the image of our great state. Our governor took it upon himself to make decisions for adults, who should be making their own healthcare decisions. This is what we’ve been doing for generations. This bill would give leaders who’ve been elected entirely too much control.

I’m adamantly opposed to passage of this bill and will encourage and support the defeat of any legislator voting for it. Because of Governor Abbott’s actions I will also be voting against him, if he chooses to run again.

Melanie Webb, Dr.

Self Clinical/Forensic Psychologist

Lumberton, TX

Over the past 11 months, Texans have seen government overreach like we have never seen before. The extent of control that Governor Abbott has taken over Texans lives is something that I never thought I would see happen in Texas! Greg Abbott unilaterally shut down businesses and schools, ordered a statewide mask mandate, pushed social distancing, and much more, all in the name of safety from an illness that has a 95-99.9% survival rate.

As a result of his actions, there has been massive loss of jobs, loss of businesses, loss of recreational activities, loss of school/education, and even loss of life. Sadly, the loss of life was not due to some mysterious virus, rather other illnesses either brought on by isolation or other unhealthy measures such as masking, and suicide over all of the other losses.

This degree of government overreach should have NEVER happened in Texas and I hope that it NEVER happens again. Unfortunately, Representative Burrows' bill HB3 would not only allow this type of executive control, but it actually strengthens executive power to act unilaterally during a "pandemic" however this executive sees fit to define "pandemic".

Therefore, I am ADAMANTLY OPPOSED to HB3. I will work tirelessly to campaign against any Texas House Member and/or Senator who supports and/or votes for this bill. I am asking all members of the Texas House to vote down this bill and introduce bills that would limit executive powers rather than strengthen them.

Litza Gonzales

Myself

Austin, TX

I vehemently disagree with this bill and urge all to vote against it. This gives our Governor the ability to dictate as he sees fit. It opens the door to corruption and eliminates Texans' access to our Inalienable rights. We see how this has worked out for states like CA, and NY and I want none of this. I haven't seen, yet, how the choices in CA and NY have protected its citizens: infection rates are still climbing, businesses are still shut down, and fear still abounds. FL and SD are completely open and are thriving. I do not trust our governing officials to look out for our best interests, but rather for theirs.

Rachel Handley

Myself

Corsicana, TX

I am against this bill. Please vote no.

Janet Jackson

Myself

Henderson, TX

This bill is a direct violation of our unalienable rights given to us by God and any representatives or senator who supports this is committing treason and is not upholding, defending and protecting our freedom and upholding their oath to the constitution. None of our Representatives, Senators, or Governor Created is and none of them have the right to regulate our respiratory function because of a right to life and oxygen is necessary for life or practice medicine without a license. Furthermore We should never give up our freedom for security because the result is we will have neither. With life there is an inherent risk of death with every breath we take it is the facts of life, it is the circle of life until Christ returns

Kayla Lain

Self

Godley, TX

I do not agree with HB 3. The governor should not have more power.

Genni Pereira
Myself/homemaker
Keller, TX

I am against this bill as no one branch of government should have all the power during an emergency. We have 3 branches of govt for a reason - to check each other. If there is an emergency then a special session should be called in the state legislature.

Shontell Davis
myself
Silsbee, TX

i dont want the federal gov controlling states authorites or cdc or fauci. allow our local state reps do their job

Fritz Deckard
Self
Beaumont, TX

Please dimiss this Marxist attempt at dwindling our last few civil liberties left in Texas.

Dana Rice
Household
Silsbee, TX

Leave all decisions for the State of Texas regarding mask mandates and etc. to Gov. Abbott , leave fauci out of Texas business !!!!!!!

Glenda Griffin
None
Beaumont, TX

I tried to read through this bill. Much of it seems unnecessary as well as hard to understand. I did not understand how gun control/ammunition had a place with covid 19. If I were voting, I would not vote for this bill.

Kourtni Hicks
Self
Lumberton, TX

Disagree. governor greg abbott Was elected by the people of Texas and should be making the calls here in our state.

Rebecca Rodgers
Self

Arlington, TX

Texas Constituents DO NOT want HB3. We want our State and Federal Constitution upheld. It is very simple our Constitutions were created to protect We The People and our God-given rights. This bill again whittles away at our rights. Simply put, It rejects the principles of self-government. Our government has become too big, and as a result, Tyranny is rampant. This bill increases the Governors and bureaucratic agencies (CDC) powers. It gives Tyrant governors' the power to make local government subservient to the governor, shut down churches, and restrict our second amendment rights during a pandemic. This is unacceptable as there is no pandemic exception in the Constitution and the rights of the people are not for the government to take at their whim. The bill basically states that if a business does not follow CDC guidelines, it can be sued. It also allows people to be fined for simply living their life the way they choose and discriminates against those that do not comply with unconstitutional mandates. This again destroys businesses and prevents individuals from their basic human rights to run their businesses and live their life as they please. We do not approve, nor do we want HB 3 voted into law.

Travis Mcqueen Mcqueen

self

lake.jackson, TX

This Is in violation of Article 1 section Section 28 and Article 2, section 1 of the Texas Constitution. This bill needs to fail in this committee. Texas will start to look like Canada when dealing with "pandemic disaster " with the start of severe enforcement ,handcuffed, and jailing of people of Texans that "disobey. executive orders"" This Bill is a disgraceful act by some of our people within the Texas legislature.

Kathleen Jurek

Self

Gonzales, TX

I oppose the passage of this bill and ask that you vote against it.

Marissa Carey

Self-homemaker

Fort Worth, TX

I oppose this bill. This sounds very dangerous and gives too much power to one person. We have seen in history how devastating that can be.

Mary Paley

Self

Cedar Hill, TX

To Whom it May Concern,

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and

proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance.

These three provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Urging your consideration and action,

Mary Paley

Tracy Hobdy

SELF

Richmond, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Steven Ehle

Self

Round Rock, TX

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill is wrong for the state of Texas in many ways. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. As our state representative it is your duty to follow the constitution and vote no on HB 3.

Nikki Brozek

self

Austin, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Tomi Bowling

Self

Round Rock, TX

This goes far beyond what is necessary to round off a pandemic. Achieving the purpose without stripping Texans of their rights is possible. This bill is NOT going to do that but turns a republic into a communist state where ones property can be seized "for the good", treatments can be mandated despite dangers etc. NO NO NO to HB3.

Todd Williams

Self

Bulverde, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3

Sally Tutor, Mrs

Self

Burnet, TX

The place of the government in this area should be to make recommendations, not to coerce medical choices. Our personal freedom to choose medical treatments should not be infringed upon. HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could effectively force

individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Anna Valencia

Self

Dallas, TX

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Karen Early

Self

San Antonio, TX

I strongly urge a NO vote for this bill. The governor's power does not need to be enlarged. Rather a return to the state constitution as written is what is needed. I

Again, vote NO.

KAREN EARLY

Jenna McClelland

Self

Austin, TX

Hello - As a CONCERNED Texas citizen, I URGE you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

DEVON HORNBY

Self, manual therapist

LEANDER, TX

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Jack McClelland

JM Loan Servicing & Self

Edinburg, TX

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Sarah Pablo

Self

Bedford, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. Not only is this bill unconstitutional, it also has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any

other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Anna Rohrbach

Self

San Antonio, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Kristin Adiska

Self

MAGNOLIA, TX

I do not support HB3. It undermines the balance of power between branches of government. Furthermore it is very concerning to me that there are no limits proposed to the conditions that would have to be met for small businesses to receive protections under this bill, during a pandemic situation. That is a dangerous slippery slope. And finally the most alarming proposal of HB3 is the creation of a CRIMINAL offense for otherwise law abiding, hard working, contributing members of society, for violating an emergency plan. This is an egregious overreach of government power and will lead to violations of individual liberties and medical freedom. I am one of the quiet ones. There are many like me. We aren't out there screaming on social media and virtue signaling for the crowd. I've lived here my whole life, worked hard, improved myself through higher education, helped my neighbors, and am raising a family. And I love Texas and the freedom and opportunity we all have access to here. But I am very concerned by the direction our government is turning. Enough is enough. As a lifelong, freedom-loving Texan I urge everyone to vote no on HB3.

Joanne Addis

Self

Lucas, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with

medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Carla Picinich

self

Florence, TX

Vote NO on HB 3. We have (and are still) experiencing the shortcomings of balance of power during an emergency. This bill does nothing to fix them.

***Any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. We have already experienced this disaster for an entire year. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

***HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. THIS IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND UNACCEPTABLE! Besides the fact that there is no legitimate science showing that these practices are effective in the least, NO EMPLOYER should be able to force THEIR EMPLOYEES (against their will and under threat of losing their livelihood) to partake in any medical practices, including testing and/or interventions, and contact tracing is an invasion of privacy.

***HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions VIOLATE the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. THIS IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND UNACCEPTABLE!

Please vote no on HB 3.

Khrystine Raguet

Self

Austin, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Thank you.
Khrystine Raguet

Denise McClelland

Self

Edinburg, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Leonora Dean

Self

Flower mound, TX

Hello,
I do not want our governor to have have complete control.
Vote "no" to HB3!! I'm am a concern citizen of the state of Tx.

Mary Allen

Self

Round Rock, TX

As a concerned citizen of the state of Texas I am very concerned with an authoritarianism in our government. We elect representatives and not one person to make laws. I oppose HB 3!!!

Shawnee Jones

Self

The Colony, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in

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Brook Bridwell

Self

Collinsville, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. With the way things were handled for COVID, I fear this bill would further the damage. First, any pandemic response should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain a balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals creating an unnecessary panic. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it does not allow for business owners to have a choice on how they run their business. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. We should all have a choice when comes to what is put into our bodies. Freedom is important and what this country was founded on. Please vote no on HB 3.

VL Jackson

Swlf

Pearland, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Patricia Holcombe

Self

Amarillo, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the LEGISLATURE to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day

intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of MEDICAL FREEDOM, INFORMED CONSENT, AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. I DO NOT WANT ANYONE TO BE FORCED TO DO ANYTHING AGAINST THEIR WILL. WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR FREEDOMS AT ALL COST. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Janet Lynam

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Dear Representative,

I am writing to make my opposition to HB 3 known to you, the committee and the entire Texas legislature.

As we have seen during this past year and particularly with the handling of the CV 19 crisis, this bill does not give protection to the people of an overreaching government, and governor. Furthermore, it does not allow for a special session of the legislature to be called in order to protect the people.

Please , do not

Allow this bill to be passed. The people of Texas should be in charge of their own business, health and choices during a pandemic, or frankly any crisis. Decisions about personal freedom SHOULD NOT be solely in the hands of the governor, of which this bill allows.

I respectfully request you make my comments known and given thorough consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet Lynam

Jimmy Lynam

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Diane Booth

Self

Brownwood, TX

Vote NO to this bill which would criminalize an individual's choice for medical care, and usurp our freedoms! For the same reason the governor's power must not be increased, but rather curbed by the legislative process! I also suggest that it is not the Governor alone who may declare a "pandemic" or any other disaster. We have seen the terrible harm such actions have caused over the past year, and which seem to be compounding. Lives, businesses, economy destroyed, and some beyond recovery! Keep Texas FREE!! "Remember the Alamo!"
Thank you, and have a blessed day!

Heather Puca

self / Consultant

KIngwood, TX

Committee Members - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. After seeing how the legislative branch was virtually shut down during this previous year, it is shocking to me why anyone would think this is a good idea. We the people need and want our elected representatives to be able to convene and make laws and provisions only after considering what is best for the entire demographic they represent. This much power should not be in the hands of one person to control openings, closings, and when normal life can take place. I am very concerned specifically because this bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Pat OConnell

Self

Red Oak, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency

management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance.

These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Thank you for upholding and fortifying our natural and constitutionally protected rights by voting NO on HB3 and any other bills that similarly propose to remove your ability to represent the interests of your constituents and to give more unchecked power to the governor.

Margot McClelland

Self

Dallas, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Kathy Powell

Self

San Marcos, TX

Mr. Burrows, As a resident of Texas and a constituent I oppose HB 3, and I encourage you to do so too. This bill grants unhealthy, unbalanced authority to the governor, including the power to commandeer private property, control movement, and declare martial law with no meaningful legislative oversight. Creates civil liability protections only for private businesses which comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations related to the pandemic disaster. Say no.

Stephanie Barrow

Self, self employed

Tomball, TX

Hello - As a HIGHLY concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. This bill gives too much power to the government and goes against many articles of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of

businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. This bill seeks to take away the God-given right that we, as individuals, have been given to choose for ourselves the care and treatment that we receive as individuals. For the sake of the freedom so many have fought and sacrificed their lives for, and for future generations... Please vote NO on HB 3.

William Martin

Self

Gilmer, TX

HB 3 (I couldn't fill HB 3 into the Bill number in the form above) As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. And these vaccines are experimental; so do not place all these restrictions on people for an experimental vaccine. Where is the virus that these vaccines are supposed to treat? I know of no isolation of a related virus anywhere. Flu cases are way down. Please vote no on HB 3.

L G

Self

Grapevine, TX

Hello,

As a concerned Texan, I would like to ask you to oppose HB 3 for the following reasons. First of all, I would like to point out that expanding the powers of the governor as this bill suggests, goes directly against the tenets of checks and balances system, which is one of the central ideas to our government. The United States of America is considered one of the freest countries in the world due to this important principle, and infringing upon it shall be considered sacrilegious. Second of all, despite the HB 3 providing some legal protections to businesses during a pandemic, at the same time it takes these businesses hostage to a litany of requirements to comply with, such as testing, medical procedures, etc. This is outright coercion, which masquerades as free choice, and is detrimental to our democracy, which already suffered numerous blows in 2020. Third of all, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. Again, this is not what the United States of America stands for. Instead of concentrating on crime and problem areas of our community, criminalizing those that choose a different path is an outright act as discrimination.

Please vote NO on HB 3, since this insidious piece of legislature is aimed to further undermine Texans' rights to religious freedom, medical freedom, and informed consent. Thank you.

Jenny Dombroski

Self

Georgetown, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jenny Dombroski

Nicole Smitt

Self

Azle, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Tana Heien

Self, biotechnology

Rockwall, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each

violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Bernard Clegg

self

Driftwood, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Pamela Lucas

Self

Southlake, TX

I wanted to state that I am opposed to HB3. It gives power to the government that is not theirs to control even in the name of “safety “. Our liberties given to us by the US Constitution should never again be trampled upon as they have been for the past year. This extends the governors powers when they should be contained.

deryl hall, mr

self

temple, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3 because its horribly bad..thanks for your time

Sherry Arrick, Mrs.

Self - retired

Huffman, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings.

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance.

These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Margaret Pedroza

Self

Pflugerville, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Eveline Evans, Mrs

Self

Lorena, TX

Do not expand the governor's emergency powers. These is a gross overstepping bill. Please vote this down.

Kathryn Mayer

Self

Van Alstyne, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Anna Marquez

Self

Creedmoor, TX

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Jennifer Mcconnaughy

Self

Frisco, TX

Please reject this bill. No one person should have control over the personal lives and health of others. My son has been vaccine injured. There should be absolutely no reason the government should force individuals to submit to a vaccine. The government should follow the constitution and the bill of rights. As we have seen this past year, the government has been given too much control over the lives of individuals. They have destroyed businesses and ruins lives. Texas should stand for freedom, not tyranny.

Michelle Milholland

Self

Frisco, TX

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beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

mike figiel

SELF

Weatherford, TX

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Lisa Haynes, Mrs

Self

Magnolia, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Amanda Inman

Self, Designer and Small Business Owner

Dallas, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen and small business owner, I urge ALL to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings.

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

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Thank you, Amanda Inman

Roxanne Stage

Self

Cleveland, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

suzan Saylor

self

Bellville, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees,

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Sarah Davis

Self

Royse City, TX

As a Texas citizen and small business owner, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill does not represent Liberty and goes against our rights under the Constitution. Our rights do not end during a pandemic. We do not need to be told what is best for us by our government when making medical decisions for ourselves and our family. The balance of power between branches of government should be maintained at all times and that includes during a pandemic. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. HB 3 may claim to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Leslie Strickland, Me.

Self

Aledo, TX

This is a horrible bill and must be stopped immediately! Never has there been a more disgusting grab for power than displayed in the text of this bill. This gives dictatorial powers to the Governor, and a few special interest. I am outraged that it is being considered at all. Vote no!

Andrew Sanchez, Mr.

Self/Refinery worker

Amarillo, TX

This bill has no provision for the legislature to check a bad decision of the governor. As we have seen with other states a governors powers need to have a check and balance. This bill should be dumped!

Kasey Cummings

Self

Burleson, TX

I want a limit on what the government can do and say during pandemic or general session.

SARAH Ferrell, MRS

Self; CPA

Katy, TX

As a taxpaying citizen, I strongly oppose this bill. The governor and other elected officials serve the people. You SERVE US. This bill is a vast overreach of government powers, something we have seen a lot of this past year. As a life long Texan, I am against this bill and I am ashamed that this bill is even up for debate. The governor should not have this kind of power over his constituents.

Kim Lucas

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Rachel Stratton

Self

Fort worth, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen and mother, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. The constitution doesn't stop just because there is a virus. Please vote no on HB 3.

Argentina Colella

Self

Fulshear, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Amy Egan

Self

Allen, TX

Please vote NO on HB3! This bill allows a governor to declare a disaster and continually renew @ 30 day intervals which could bypass legislation of mandates made during said time. This removes the people's choice and could very easily remove citizens rights to tenants of medical freedom, informed consent and religious liberties, among other things. Please help keep Texas free and run by the people, not by kings!

Jeff Griggs

Self

Lufkin, TX

This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Scott Bigham, Mr.

Self - Construction

Plano, TX

Oppose HB 3

As a very concerned Texas citizen, I emphatically urge you to vote NO on HB 3.

This bill has several shortcomings and leans toward violating our rights as Texans.

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

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Shanon Buffington

Self

Coppell, TX

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Denise Tucker

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to HB3, as this demonstrates further government overreach into citizen's private lives regarding the sovereignty and autonomy over our own health and normal risk factors of human behavior/human functions of daily living. This bill fails to acknowledge prior adverse events from a vaccine, the gross underreporting of vaccine adverse events that doctors are not mandated to provide to the VAERS (Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System), such as seizures, Guillian Barre Syndrome, autism, and many other life altering conditions. Furthermore, many citizens who experienced any adverse event following a previous vaccine did not receive a medical exemption from their physician at the time of this event. These same individuals did not know to advocate for a medical exemption as vaccines have always been an individual choice, and for this reason, should remain so. Physicians, by and large, have resisted providing medical exemptions for vaccinations despite acknowledging the adverse reaction did indeed occur. This puts all these people at great risk for further damage or death if a forced vaccination policy is put into place. Regarding the mask mandates, the CDC put out a report on March 5, 2021 stating that wearing a mask accounts for less than 2% decrease in Covid case growth after one hundred days. Per this report, published on the nationalfile.com website, the CDC has inflated the Covid death rate for 2020 by at least 1600%. In other words, it is now well known that most deaths occurring in 2020 were filed as Covid deaths, no matter the circumstance or underlying comorbidities. The Contact Trace plan is also extremely overreaching and does not take into account the privacy of citizens who do not test positive for Covid, no accounting for the age of an individual who would be subject to off site quarantining, no accountability for

coercion of vaccination in order to be "released" from a quarantine situation, despite that individual having no criminal record and no Covid positive test. It does take into account the nuances of people's lives including pets left alone for an extended period of time, uncared for and starving. The PCR tests themselves are suspect at best. It has been well established that these tests will provide false positives when the saturation level on the machine that reads them is set above 20-35 cycles. The cycle settings for all of 2020 are now known to have been set at 45 cycles, contributing to inflated Covid positive case numbers. These PCR tests are utilized to determine all kinds of infections, and are not Covid specific tests. The Covid 19 virus has not been isolated to this date, and the mass testing is known to pick up any previous Corona virus infection, even from years earlier. There has been far too much corruption going on with regards to this virus, including the reclassification of the meaning of pandemic. Please uphold your official duty to the citizens and vote NO on bill HB3. Thank you!

Jeanette Watson

Self

Cedar Creek, TX

Although it sounds like a good idea at first, HB 3 is actually a breach of our freedoms as American citizens, and does not limit the overreach of government as our Constitution provides. NO for HB 3.

chad graves

Public response

Plano, TX

No to any increase in authority.

Richey Havenhill

Self

Arlington, TX

I'm requesting that HB 3 to fail passage in the Texas legislature. This would be an obvious infringement on peoples' constitutional rights. Please do NOT pass HB 3!

Olena Duka

Self/homemaker

Round Rock, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Sarah Alexander

Self

Fort worth, TX

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Colette McCadden

self/physical therapist

Frisco, TX

As a resident in Texas, I have significant concerns regarding HB3. Over the past year, the residents of Texas have been ruled by multiple executive orders. This bill specifically states that passage would "clarify and strengthen the roles of the governor..." It is my sincere belief that the role of the governor should be weakened not strengthened. Additional concerns include sections of 418A.007 regarding Civil Liability During Pandemic Disaster...part (b) (3). I understand the intent is to provide liability protection for businesses but the way the text is written, businesses would be required to make a reasonable effort to comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations related to the pandemic disaster. This language is excessively broad. In essence, if the federal government states that US citizens should be wearing two masks but the State of Texas does not have a formal mask mandate, businesses would be required to enforce a double mask policy in order for their business to be protected from liability? We need to return to individual freedom and responsibility, not mandates by the government.

Section 418A.053 Declaration of State of Pandemic Disaster (2) (c).. "A state of pandemic may not continue for more than 30 days unless renewed by the governor. The legislature by law may terminate a state of pandemic disaster..." I do not find any mention of the governor being required to call the legislature into session after 30 days. This is exactly what the residents of Texas have dealt with for the past year. Being ruled by executive order after executive order. Since the enacting of the 1st executive order in March 2020, the legislature has essentially had no power to terminate the pandemic disaster declaration because the legislature was not in session and the governor refused to call the legislature into session. In order to not be ruled by executive order, I believe after 30 days that a pandemic disaster is declared that the governor should be required to call the legislature back into session.

Thank you for your time.

Cindy Griffin

Self

Houston, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Lisa Miller

self/Registered Dietitian

Lewisville, TX

Thank you for your service to the people of Texas. I implore you to not allow the governor of Texas to be granted unconstitutional powers in the event of an emergency or pandemic. Please uphold our system of checks and balances. Please maintain the integrity of the legislative branch. I ask that you vote against HB 3. Please support SB1025 and SJR45 instead. Your time and attention is greatly valued!

Misty Walters

Self - Homeschooling Mom

Tomball, TX

Hello - As a very concerned Texas citizen, actually enraged by the actions of the governor during the last year, I urge you to vote absolutely "NO" on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. This is exactly the opposite of what should be happening. The legislature represents the people and nobody but a few special interests had the ear of the governor in the last year. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. This is the opposite of what Texas should be doing for business. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. This is outrageous and is a vicious attack on the rights of Texans to live their lives in peace. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Pamela Stevenson

Self

Garland, TX

Greetings:

No single governor, judge, mayor or manager should ever have rights to control movement of people, redirect funds, take property, etc. No governor should have ability to take these freedom killing and abusive powers nor should they be allowed to continue ANY emergency order more than a week. They should not be able to extend their own orders more than the original week for a critical emergency need. If we allow this, we are under Communist rule. The legislation needs ability to call for their own session and should be automatically called to session at the end of a one week emergency order to vote on actions that may need to be approved beyond the 1 week governor order. Nothing beyond a week for an individual should be allowed moving forward. If the legislation needs to move funds, it should go to public vote. You don't have AUTHORITY to take our money and do what you want with it indefinitely. Taxation without true representation is reason for Revolution. Texans have spoken.

Best Regards,
Texas citizen, Mom, Wife and business professional

Kendra Mendenhall

Self

Lantana, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

CHARLES TURNER

SELF

BULLARD, TX

Ladies and Gentlemen:

During the Disaster Declaration in response to the "Covid Pandemic" we have seen the rights guaranteed to us by the Texas Bill of Rights, Article I of the State Constitution, trampled by executive orders issued by the governor and carried out by local and state officials. We have seen businesses destroyed by closures that violate Article I, section 17, which assures that no property can be damaged or destroyed without compensation, and Article I, section 19, which assures that no citizen shall be deprived of life, liberty, property, privileges or immunities except by due process of the law. We have seen citizens denied their religious freedom as guaranteed by Article I, section 6, by being prohibited from gathering for religious services. The right to assemble is also protected by Article I, section 27.

Article I, section 28, clearly states that "No power of suspending laws in this State shall be exercised except by the Legislature." To the best of my knowledge, the State Legislature was never called into session, therefore, we, the citizens of Texas had no voice in dealing with these matters.

Article I, section 29, of the State Constitution clearly states that "...everything in this "Bill of Rights" is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate, and all laws contrary thereto, shall be void."

It is my belief that ALL of the executive orders issued by the governor and local officials were in violation of the Constitution, Article I, and therefore void.

I believe that the governor's authority should be severely limited and that any executive orders that infringe on the rights and privileges enumerated the Bill of Rights should be limited to no more than seven (7) days and that the Legislature should be called into special session if the need exists for further action.

Never again should we be subjected to the tyranny we have experienced over this past year!

Respectfully,
Charles W. Turner

Elizabeth Bazan
Self / RN
San Antonio, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Betty Pennell
Self
Hudson Oaks, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Ken Pennell
Self

Hudson Oaks, TX

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Sonya Cummings

Self

Burleson, TX

The governor of Texas should not have more power during a pandemic or emergency situation. The governor should have limited power to mandate unconstitutional rules that directly affects the citizens and small businesses of Texas. The YEAR long mandates are not scientifically proven to work and directly destroyed the lives of many people. Many people will never recover from the 2 weeks of flattening the curve that lasted almost a year. Citizens of Texas take pride in their ability to make their own educated decisions and decide what is best for their families. This bill will make the unconstitutional lock downs easier to do and there will be no way for anyone to question the governor if this bill passed. I strongly oppose this as a born and raised Texan.

Angeliene Lemmons

self, retired

Boerne, TX

As a Texas citizen, I am strongly opposed to HB 3 and urge you to vote NO. I believe that this bill is wrong because it places too much authority in the hands of one man, the governor. Any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. Second, HB 3 conditions the legal protections for businesses on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Mark Lynam

Self

Saginaw, TX

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response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Rendi Hess

Self

Flower Mound, TX

Please vote no on this bill which allows too much government overreach. We are Americans first. Never dictator's. Please vote no. This would apply also if a Democrat governor was in power. No no no. Please vote no!

Nicole Lamb

Self, Homemaker

Garland, TX

Please vote no on this bill. This bill grants too much power to our governor during emergency situations. The things that are concerning are 1) the 30 day ongoing ability to declare an emergency situation without limitation or specific end date, also no way for other legislature to stop or interfere with this declaration if needed 2) granting power to commandeer private lands and private resources 3) fining people who don't comply with ALL points of an emergency management plan, which could open up a legal way to force people to comply with interventions they don't morally agree with, and which would also be illegal 4) keeping businesses free from legal liability during an emergency situation but only if they comply with any and all pandemic related laws, which could also force businesses to enforce interventions they don't agree with and also open up the possibility for people using those businesses to have to endure or comply with interventions they don't morally agree with.

Thank you,
Nicole Lamb

Jacques Benard

Self

Houston, TX

As a proud Texan and a US citizen, I urge you to say No to HB 3. This bill wants to create criminal offenses for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan. This will force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that might be made up. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty which made our state and country the best in the world. Vote No on HB 3.

If an emergency plan must be enacted again, make it for short durations, for example 30 days, and then the plan must be reevaluated on a monthly basis. It should be enacted by legislature to maintain a balance of power between branches of government.

Small businesses were severely impacted by the previous emergency declaration. Many of them will never open again. Small businesses are the lifeblood of the American way of life and are the major employers of the people of Texas. Measures must be taken to prevent this from happening again in the future.

Vote No on HB 3.

Linda Harkness

Self

Kingwood, TX

Don't vote for this. Not good for our state.

Meg Stewart

Self

Longview, TX

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Nicole Wright Wright

Texas voter

Robstown, TX

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Melissa Jacobs

self

Magnolia, TX

This is my effort to make it loud and clear to our Texas Reps and our Governor that we are DONE! We will no longer tolerate the government overreach we have endured and we sure won't tolerate more. There are better Bill options out there to give us the necessary parameters for pandemic situations.

Karen Gawne

self

SANGER, TX

I believe that HB 3 violates the rights of all Texans according to the Constitution of the United States. Taking over and controlling our rights to liberty and freedom should never be given to any government entity. I expect my representative to vote NO. To protect the inalienable rights of all Texans. Government does not need to be controlling the people of Texas. We are not ignorant and we can and will make good decisions for ourselves and our communities.

Beetah Arce

Self

Taylor, TX

I oppose this bill.

Rebecca Kern

Self/ retired

Bandera, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Sincerely, Rebecca Kern

Dianna Sanchez

Self

Amarillo, TX

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Jillian McGee

Self RN/homeschool mom

Fort Worth, TX

A bill like this does not belong anywhere in a free country. This is totalitarian. It's appalling that this is even on the table. We the people do not consent.

Terelyn Santos

Self - retired chaplain and RN and teacher

San Antonio, TX

As much as we support our governor, we are not okay with any governor having that much power during a pandemic. We ask for a No vote on HB 3. Thank you.

Nathaniel Corchado

Self

Houston, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Christine Veith

No organization.

Austin, TX

Please vote against this bill and keep Texans free and sovereign!!!

Christine Veith

self

Austin, TX

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Virginia Allinson

Self

Crawford, TX

As a 6 generation Texan I am appalled that such an action is being attempted by a still, though slim margin, Republican run state! This is nothing more than a power grab! Sadly, Texas is trending blue due to those fleeing Democrat ruinous policies like this one you are trying to pass! Because we are trending blue what will become of us when we are solidly blue and run by Democrats? No different than CA, Minnesota, NY, DC, Oregon!!! Be Republicans and let us stay free! Don't make Texans have to flee to FL where they have a Republican who truly loves this country and works for the people!!! Vote NO on this bill!

Heather LaGuire

Self /home/ children

Frisco, TX

I am HORRIFIED that members are seeking to codify the actions of "Emperor" Abbott during COVID. Instead members should be seeking to RESTORE our CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC by ensuring a REPRESENTATIVE form of government by law (i.e. writing a bill that would allow the legislature to be called immediately into session—not by the Gov. , AND safeguarding our election system INSTEAD of following in the footsteps of fraudulent states.)

Terry Putnam

self, retired

georgetown, TX

This HB 3 bill is an affront to all liberty loving Texans. I am disappointed that it was even submitted with a "low" bill number

which implies a high priority for the House. This bill should be immediately relegated to the trash. Criminal penalties should be assessed against elected officials and Texas government employees who knowingly violate the Texas Constitution which has been done during the current "pandemic".

Tonya Buffington

Myself

Keller, TX

I do not believe the governor should have sweeping rights in an pandemic. That is why he has a cabinet and other leaders. To consult with wisdom for the best possible outcome for his people

karen miller, mrs

home owner

Georgetown, TX

I do not want this bill passed we have too much government say so in your lives now.

ilene barnett

self

arlington, TX

H.B. 3 is not what free Texas Republic needs - ever. So many things inhibit our freedoms, gives power over us to companies and corporations, too much power to Exec Branch.

This bill practically gives dictatorial powers to a governor. This is not the way of freedom. It is evident this bill is not written by Constitutional Republic Americans who cherish freedom. *commandeer private property*divert public funds*controls the movement of (quickly losing our)free movement*gives control of (not so) free Texans to businesses *bill provides that the leg. may term a declaration of pandemic disaster at any time; however, it does not provide a way or requirement to call leg. back into session if not in session (low i.q. author?)*Removes Check on Executive Branch . This bill smacks of becoming the CCP in increments.

Wilma Joy Putnam

self

Georgetown, TX

I am against HB-3 because it is unconstitutional in that it has the Governor acting with no Involvement of the TX Legislature in deciding the rules to be followed (i.e., no involvement of the Legislature in determining policies and timespans of rules involving lockdown, businesses impacted, masks, etc.)

I strongly support SJR-45 and SB-1050 because it forces the Governor to convene the Legislature to fulfill its constitutional duties and responsibilities in representing its Texan constituents.

Laura Medrano

self SAHM

Tarkington, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3.

This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

Please vote no on HB 3.

Tamera Henken

Self

Odessa, TX

I oppose this bill, and ask my representatives to do the same. We should not affirm, and make normal or acceptable the mandates imposed by our govenor this past year. The is evidence is clear that the mandates caused more harm than even the coronavirus did. The states that remained open had far fewer cases of the virus, and their economies are thriving. It is not in line with scientific evidence to claim that healthy people breathing normally are a source of danger to those around them. Businesses are not in cjarge of their customers' decisions to wear or not wear a mask. They should not be held liable for making sure customers wear masks or maintain social distance. This is America, land of the free, and we expect to be treated as adults who can make our own decisions about how we will care for ourselves. The Constitution is in place to limit the powers of government, so that freedom will remain. Creating a law that gives our government more power to treat citizens as cattle to be managed is not in line with the freedoms for which America stands. I will be looking at the records of my representatives, and I assure you that I will not vote for anyone who affirms mandates, forced vaccines, forced masks, or forced business closures. Thank you.

Kayla Ahlfinger

self

Weatherford, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3. Thank you! -Dr. Ahlfinger

Brad Ahlfinger

self

Weatherford, TX

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Chelsey Hearn

self

Whitehouse, TX

I am utterly opposed to this bill, and urge you to vote NO. You must safeguard Texans' sovereignty and freedoms and ensure that the office of governor isn't given more power than is absolutely necessary. This past year, the governor's executive orders have treated Texans like children, not like citizens. We don't need a parent with unparalleled authority, we need a limited government with accountability.

Mark Egan

Self

Allen, TX

Please vote NO!

Would remove any power from the citizens and give a governor all the power.

Dangerous!

Vicki Woledge

self, stay at home mom

Austin, TX

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. I am very concerned about this bill. (1) any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. (2) although HB 3 says it provides protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. (3) HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions VIOLATE the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please VOTE NO on HB 3.

Susan Dowling

Self

Taylor, TX

I oppose the bill

Adam Dowling

Self

Taylor, TX

I oppose the bill.

Teresa Tran

Self

Grand Prairie, TX

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Kelly Carlson

Self homeschool mom

Montgomery, TX

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Share this post:

Ashley Robertson

self/mother

Austin, TX

As a concerned mother and Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. The provisions in this bill violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

Delia Mayo

Self

Diboll, TX

Hello. Please vote no to HB 3. Texas is strong and proud. As a lifelong resident of this great state I have seen it changing to a degree that Texans won't be able to recognize the greatness anymore. From a concerned Texan who wishes The Legislators would keep Texas Independent of Bills that will hurt. Thank you, Denise

Melissa Cheshier

Concerned citizen

Muenster, TX

Please stop HB3 and its terrible legislation. Governors should never have this kind of power over citizens, even in emergency situations. The legislatures must be involved, and we expect our legislators to stand up for the Texas Constitution and the US Constitution to protect citizens against executive overreach.

Lindyl Lanham

self

Houston, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Pat Noyes

Self

Bridgeport, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Tara Petsch

Self

Klein, TX

NO to HB3! A governor should not have that much power during a disaster. Texans have woken up and will vote the RINOs out if they support this bill. We aren't ignorant and won't fall for "but there's so much good stuff in this bill". We see you RINO Burrows, increasing government control. This isn't DC where a bunch of pork is added to a bill. We're in Texas. Vote NO to HB3

MD McCoy

Self

Weatherford, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Christy Smith

Self

Fort Worth, TX

The HB3 is horrible government overreach. As a conservative republican, I'm tired of the bullshit y'all try and pull on us. Y'all should all be arrested for crooked behavior.

Amy Harrington, Ms

Self

Bonham, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3

Victoria I. Fowler, Ms

Self

Houston, TX

This proposed bill, HB 3, would give the governor dictatorial powers far exceeding anything the constitution would support. This must not be approved. Our democracy is in danger, in fact, almost gone and this type of power would be the final domino.. This great free land would be no better than China, Russia or other totalitarian regimes. It's horrible, unthinkable and TOTALLY WRONG.

Jennifer Grant

self

COLLEGE STA, TX

I am very concerned about executive orders and mandates, regarding any topic. Balance of power is a founding principle of our nation we put set aside at our peril. Any crisis, pandemic or otherwise, can be used as an excuse and a cover for a level of control that can become permanent. Any emergency powers should have a very short duration. Also this bill could lead to businesses and individuals being forced or forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, and/or other interventions which go against personal sovereignty and freedom of choice, including religious liberty.

Joyce Dicken

Self

Fort Worth, TX

As a concerned citizen of Texas, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3! The provisions in this bill violate medical freedom, informed consent and Religious liberty. No one person should have this much control over a Republic. We've seen the results of that over this past year. Texans needs to be protected from unconstitutional over-reach. Oversight by our body of legislators is necessary to prevent over-reach by a small clique over-riding the public wishes. Please vote No on HB3.

Keith williams

Self

Abilene, TX

Please let me know what is going on with these

Keila Nichols, Doctor of Chiropractic

Dr. Keila Nichols, D.C.

Richardson, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Michael Kappelman

Texans Who Oppose Vaccination

Grand Prairie, TX

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Linda Bilton

self

Clifton, TX

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conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Nicole Cox

Texas

Corpus Christi, TX

I urge you to vote no on HB3. We've already seen the disaster that can happen when government/governors are given sweeping powers during a pandemic. Look at New York and CA.

No new sweeping powers for government during Whatever they classify as a pandemic.

Please vote no on HB3

CHRISTINA Youtsey

Self. Mother. Interior designer.

Aledo, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. No one person should have the power to make such an overarching and widely affecting decision. It is necessary to have checks and balances from the other branches to make decisions of this magnitude. No person acting alone should ever have the power to divert public funds, commandeer private property and/or control the movement of individuals. This would make said person a Monarch and/or dictator and neither one of these governing styles is acceptable to our state and/or nation.

Heather Hardy

self / occupation: mom

McKinney, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Megan Tye

Self

Argyle, TX

I wholeheartedly oppose HB 3. One thing this pandemic has shown is the vast difference of approach the governor's across the US have taken. Most democratic run states are still locked in their houses with little to no freedom. Republican run states have trusted their citizens (for the most part) to protect themselves & those around them in the way they seem fit. We don't need the governor to have more power. If the government is able to gain more power during times of "crisis", who is to say they won't create a crisis to gain more power? Leave us along. Texas is a place of independence, compassion & yes, a healthy streak of rebellion. Why don't y'all instead focus on making sure we have electricity when life-threatening weather strikes?

Pierce Gawne

self

Sanger, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3. It is garbage and goes against the core fiber of Texas.

Marilyn Micheletti

Self

Frisco, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Daniela Heyer

Self

Austin, TX

As a concerned parent and citizen, I oppose to the HB3 Bill. My reasons for this are:

Pandemic response should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. Allowing the governor to be able to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30 day intervals, it's giving the governor an authority that does not belong to them.

It's important to note that while HB 3 would provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being forced to require medical interventions for their employees, vendors, or customer in different ways, via testing, vaccines, contact tracing, etc.

Also, this bill creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any declared emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly force individuals to comply with medical interventions, such as testing, vaccines, contact tracing, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. I vehemently oppose HB3.

Joyce Lail, RPh and LPC

Self, Registered Pharmacist and Licensed Professional Counselor

Irving, TX

Dear Representatives;

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings.

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

The Legislature needs to be able to call itself back into session if there is a disaster lasting more than 14 days.

The Legislature needs to make laws at the request of their constituents. The Governor should not be allowed this unilateral power. It is un-Constitutional.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

All medical decisions regarding testing, procedures, medications and vaccines should be decided upon by each individual, not by one's employer, a medical provider or the government. Each individual lives with the consequences of those decisions, not others.

Businesses should not be required to enforce executive orders or laws.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

I should make ALL of my medical decisions. It is my Constitutional right to do so.

Please vote no on HB 3.
Joyce Lail
Licensed Professional Counselor
Registered Pharmacist
10424 Morton Ct
Irving, TX 75063
Cell 214-663-6293

Calvin Tillman
Self
Valley View, TX

I urge you to oppose HB 3 for the following reasons. One of the many lessons we have learned during the spread of COVID-19 is that governments at all levels can wield too much power over the lives of people simply by declaring an emergency. The legislature should be curtailing rather than broadening emergency powers vested in the office of the governor.

Specifically, HB 3 would allow the governor to make long-term emergency declarations that carry the force and effect of law. The governor's emergency power would include the ability to commandeer private property, control movement in declared disaster areas (which could include the entire state) and declare martial law.

In short, this bill would allow a Texas governor to create a virtual police state based solely upon his or her pandemic disaster declaration with no meaningful legislative oversight.

Elizabeth Stoulil
Self
North Richland Hills, TX

Re: State Affairs March 11, 2021 - 8:00 AM [Capitol Ext. Auditorium, E1.004]

Please OPPOSE HB 3. I support freedom and I firmly oppose mandated medical treatments. I repeat - I firmly OPPOSE this Bill. Civil liberties are at risk. I am against the government controlling the movement of any individual. I have a right to choose. Please do not take that basic right away from me.

Lauren Kinney
Self
Glen Rose, TX

Hello there -

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of

punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Please consider the potential abuses of such a bill which completely relies on the accuracy and trustworthiness of statistics provided by public health agencies which are known to have significant financial entanglements to industry.

Thank you

Lara Wilmeth, Mrs

Self, Tattoo Artist

Denton, TX

If a private company did not want to be sued for grievously mishandling the electric grid, then they should have joined the federal program to utilize federal regulations. SUE THOSE AT FAULT FOR THE POWER OUTAGES THAT AFFECTED MILLIONS OF LIVES!

Emily Cochrane

Self

Prosper, TX

This concerned Texas citizen is pleading with you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill i. No way serves to maintain balance of power because it allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals, indefinitely. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This means businesses will likely be forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which also means forcing individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Pat Cochrane

Self

Prosper, TX

This could be the most egregious overreach of legislative policy making ever. We went through the past year suffering under the policies of a dictator in Texas that mirrored the likes of Whitmer, Murphy, Cuomo, and Newsom. There is a separation of powers for a reason and apparently Representative Burrows from Lubbock doesn't realize the purpose behind checks and balances. As a military veteran who has fought against dictators in countries abroad, this legislation grants too much power to one man. Governor Abbott's executive orders related to the COVID pandemic are absolutely unconstitutional and violate numerous amendments to the constitution. There have been plenty of legal challenges and it's only because the Supreme Court lacks the judicial backbone to review any of the cases. The Supreme Court knows that if they reviewed any sensible and well formed case, they would absolutely rule the governors actions' unconstitutional. That would show a divide though between the GOP and Judicial members who have been nominated by Abbott. It's sickening to see elected representatives trying to codify even stronger emergency powers for a governor and not understanding the long term impacts of passing this type of legislation. Wait until there is a Democrat governor who then uses these emergency powers to declare a climate emergency or an emergency related to any number of progressive issues. We need to be limiting the governors' scope on emergency powers, not expanding them. Mark my words, your inability to look strategically at the Texas Disaster Act and how those powers have been abused over the past year will have devastating impacts to the state of Texas and to the GOP here. Quit trying to appease the moderates and

the scared RINOs of the party. My rights don't stop because there is an emergency or a pandemic or because Representative Burrows got scared for his grandma. This bill is an absolutely joke and don't expect me to respect and/or follow this law if passed because it will be like our current president, illegitimate.

Mary Mynar, Mrs

Self-very concerned citizen- self-employed contractor

West, TX

This is ludicrous. The people of Texas won't stand for our land being taken.

Lauren Ricks

Self. Office Manager

Midlothian, TX

I respectfully request all committee members reject this legislation as it unconstitutionally and unnecessarily grants legislative powers to the governor. By design, the Texas governor is not a powerful position and it should remain so.

I believe the Texas House should be limiting the governor's power rather than expanding them after the catastrophic effects of his mandates. The people of Texas have suffered enough with shutdowns, lockdowns and mandates. None of these measures have been effective in limiting the spread of Covid but have increased our unemployment rate, suicide rate and shut down untold small businesses permanently.

As Texans, and Conservatives, we expect you to protect our interests before you protect the governor's. Continuing down the path of Cuomo will not benefit the political future of any representative currently in office. We demand freedom over safety. Texans should be leading this charge rather than being in the back of the line with Connecticut. We should have been more Texas than South Dakota but we weren't. You have the opportunity now to recitify your error over the past year by remaining silent while Governor Abbott ruled us by decree.

Cathy Austin

Self

Eules, TX

Please reject GB 3. Thank you.

Frances is Karlsrud

Self, retired

Spring, TX

Vote NO. Maintain the proper functions of branches of government.

Federico Arce

self

Irving, TX

As a Texas resident and father of two children, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate

balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Lauren Ohickey

Self

Austin, TX

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Jeffrey Sciarretta

Self

Taylor, TX

We request you **STRONGLY OPPOSE** HB 3 or fix it. HB 3 doesn't support our constitutional freedoms and rights to **NOT** take vaccines. My body my choice!

Davis Cassie

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I OPPOSE HB3!!

Kristi LeFrere, RN,CRNA,APRN

Self

Temple, TX

Hello - I am a very concerned Texas citizen , parent , and medical professional. I urge you to vote NO on HB 3.

This bill is very concerning to me on various levels.

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. Allowing the option for continual renewal at 30-day intervals is beyond the reach of governance.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

This if of a particularly huge concern to me as a working provider of health care to fellow Texans. This could potentially eliminate my personal choice and prohibit me from employment , which helps many other Texans as well.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Kristi LeFrere

Daniel Flowers

Daniel Flowers

Terrell, TX

The governor, or any other state actor, agent does NOT have the authority to restrict my God given Constitutionally affirmed rights. If some believe that a state actor or official can restrict people's God given Constitutionally affirmed rights then we are no longer a Constitutional Republic, but a Monarchy. Support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Texas Constitution. Do not allow yourselves and your constituents to be ruled by godless despots. Uphold your oaths and defend the Constitution. God bless.

Very Respectfully,

Daniel

Kristi Corder, Dr.

Self

Lubbock, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees,

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Brent Corder

Self

Lubbock, TX

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John Davis, Dr.

Self / chiropractor

Frisco, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen and business owner, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Thank you,
Dr. John Davis

Elizabeth Hooper

Self, CPA

Whitesboro, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response

beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Gary Pitts, Mr.

ME

Quinlan, TX

Do Not Vote for this Bill... Less executive Power NOT MORE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Karen Fernandez

self

Austin, TX

I am
against the bill. The govenor should not have sweeping power at any time, pandemic or otherwise.

Chuck Siegel

Self - Business owner

Waco, TX

I am absolutely opposed to giving the Governor any more unconstitutional power to circumvent the legislature, which is what this bill would do. The legislature needs to stand up and reclaim the powers that have been taken from it by the Executive Branch. We the people of Texas have elected our legislature to make large decisions that may affect our entire economy and way of life such as those related to a public health crisis (unlike the fake pandemic we have lived under for the last year). No more unlawful Executive Branch overreach!

Keith Russell, AT1 USN Ret.

Self

Alvin, TX

The Governor should hold power during disasters, if it's given to the legislature then they would have to be in session. If given to a non elected position what would their motivation be to serve the people? In my opinion if it ain't broke don't fix it or just look at Biden and how he has changed America.

Jackie Hunt

self

Georgetown, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge the legislature to vote NO on HB 3. This gives the governor too much power to continually declare a pandemic disaster. We need the legislature to be able to enact restrictions on a long term pandemic response. HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB-3

Heather Redding

Self

San Antonio, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Jerry Davis

self, engineer

Fort Worth, TX

This is a bad bill and not good for Texans and our businesses. Too much power to government, both state and federal. This should be left to the individual county precincts.

Karissa Collins

Self

Kaufman, TX

VOTE NO TO HB3! This gives too much power to the governor and violates checks and balances in regards to a pandemic. Texans we not represented in the handling of covid pandemic. This also violates medical freedom should buisness be forced to follow policy's forced upon them. Citizens are to decide for ourselves what is put in and on our bodies, NOT the government or govenor. Please think of how our children and citizens suffered in the handing of covid. We can prevent this by NOT passing this house bill.

Rachel Taylor

Self

San Antonio, TX

Hello,

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Bea Ann Bridges

Texans for Vaccine Choice

Carrollton, TX

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Monica Hebert

Self

Spring, TX

No no no no no no no no no

Please vote NO

Mary Carroll

Self, Personal Trainer

Austin, TX

Forgive my copy-paste of this opposition to HB-3, but it mirrors my sentiments exactly and it is very well worded:

“Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic

response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.”

Anna O'Neal

self

Cypress, TX

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Jennifer Yoch, Mrs.

Self Teacher

Blue Ridge, TX

Please do not allow HB3 to become law! You need to protect the separation of powers in the 3 branches of government. That is the basis for our system of government in Texas and we should not alter it. The second topic is that this bill creates problems for education.

Section 418 of the current Disaster Act gives a Governor too much power already, as we have seen by the Executive Orders renewed multiple times over the past 12 months. HB3 says in 418.051 that the Governor may only exercise the authority granted by this chapter to address a pandemic. On the other hand, in 418A.052, it says the governor may issue Executive Orders, Proclamations, or Rules to further the purposes of this chapter. One of the stated purposes of the Chapter is “strengthen the role of the governor.” (418A.002)

HB3 allows the Governor to suspend laws and regulatory statutes. Worst of all, it states that “An officer or employee of a state or local agency, or a volunteer acting at the direction of an officer or employee of a state or local agency, is considered to be a member of the Texas military forces.” It gives the Governor the power to suspend the authority of other jurisdictions including the President of the United States and other Governors. A Governor should have limited Emergency power and for a duration of 30 days. That is enough time for the legislature to meet and plan out solutions for the emergency. HB3 centralizes all power to the Governor. It gives his Executive Orders the force of law. It also extends the duration of an emergency to as long as the Governor

sees fit. HB3 allows the Governor to allocate all state financial and personnel resources to be used for the emergency including private property.

What HB3 does NOT address is strengthening the role of the Legislature, which is charged with making laws in Texas. Why would anyone in the Legislature want to reduce their own power and give it to one single person? This seems very short-sided. Perhaps this committee feels that Governor Abbott is the ideal person to make decisions during a pandemic. Unfortunately, governors change over time, so there may come a time that a less qualified governor will have this power. The Texas Constitution gives the governor power over the Executive Branch. I wouldn't ever want to see one person create the laws and also enforce them. Looking into the future, this would be very bad for Texas.

After spending time reading through HB3, I have come to the conclusion that there is so much that's wrong with this bill that it needs to be completely eliminated as soon as possible! No legislator would vote for something that gives away his or her power unless there was some moral good or some outside reason for doing it. I can't see any moral good in this bill, so I have to assume the second option. As a Texan, I cannot support anyone who votes for this bill. We are begging you to do the right thing and that is to kill this bill.

Paul Yoch

Self

Blue Ridge, TX

Given the way that Abbott did not follow procedure for his latest emergency declaration, I think it is abhorrent to give him additional powers at the cost of the legislative branch of Texas government. While I personally voted for him, I also voted for many of you to represent me and my interests. One man should not rule, we don't live in a dictatorship, but rather in a democracy. I would urge you to all vote this bill down and not grant him, or any future governor powers that this bill includes.

Billie Murphy

Self/Health Educator

LA GRANGE, TX

The people of the great state of Texas have experienced tremendous government overreach during the last year. Please do not allow this to become the norm by passing HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Jolyn Schwartz

Self

ARLINGTON, TX

I do not wish to give anyone more power over myself or my family. That is the problem with today's world. We need to be

responsible for the choices we make. I choose not to live in Fear. Our Government needs to be "For the People" leave us to make what is best for our families. Freedom is slowly being taken away. Its making people who serve feel less interested in serving. Because years ago you did for the Freedoms of Americans. Now it seems we are doing for dictatorship. Stop trying to make us a communist country.

Kate Forsythe

Personal

flower mound, TX

I oppose HB3. Please vote against this bill and the subjugation it puts the Texas population under. It is a violation of my rights to not be able to choose my medical treatment.

Annette Presley

Self, registered dietitian

Arlington, TX

I oppose this bill because it is unconstitutional and a violation of our freedom and everything America stands for. We do not want a government that has authority to control people and dictate what they can and can't do. This bill does not serve Texans in any way. It only works against Texans. It is not the government's job to protect our health, it is the government's job to protect our freedom. Please say no to tyranny and vote no on this anti freedom bill.

Bradley Wilburn

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I cannot believe Texas is even considering such a bill...it makes me sick. This isn't California or Washington!

James Westerheid

Self

McKinney, TX

Under no circumstances should any EO of the Governor transcend 30 days WITHOUT CONCURRENCE of the legislative branch. Under no circumstances should the Governor ever be allowed to have any executive order become law with any criminal penalties. If it makes sense we the people will follow it. If not we won't

Lori Jenkins, Mrs

self

San Marcos, TX

Vote NO on HB 3. Limits to power are necessary to stop the tyranny Texas has been under this past year. I educated myself on the PCR "test" back in 2015 because of lyme disease. PCR is not a test, it is a research tool based on Kary Mullis, the inventor's own words. Depriving a human of oxygen is a criminal act. Shutting down our economy for an illness was criminal. Please, do not give more power to the office of governor of Texas. Instead, reinforce the limitations of that office based on the Texas Constitution.

Rita Palomarez

Concerned Texan

Manvel, TX

Do not want House Bill 3 to pass! This is disastrous for our Republican state of Texas! Abbet is acting like a dictator and I do not want him to have lawmaking powers he's been a horrible governor and I do not want him having special privileges! We are still a free state it's unconstitutional for him to have more power than what he has and I demand that all of my legislators And committee members do not give him powers that are unconstitutional! I want the powers that be are three separate entities that are declared for us in our constitution to remain!

Shandelyn Speake

Self, homemaker

Roanoke, TX

Please oppose this bill. It infringes on our rights and freedoms and government should not have the ability to do so.

Frances Vesely

FRANCES VESELY

Ganado, TX

I am opposed to the passage of this bill because it gives the governor (one person) too much power. This can result in far reaching effects of taking away individual freedom. Please vote this bill down.

Aimee Flores

GOP

Rosharon, TX

I oppose this bill & the government having the power over future lockdowns. Texas is free and should remain free.

Kim Graham

self Sales Director

Plano, TX

THIS BILL is UNAMERICAN and should be dead on arrival. WE DO NOT WANT sweeping pandemic emergency authority to the governor, to divert public funds, commandeer private property, and control the movement of individuals. He may or may not call back the legislators to allow them to vote to terminate but this bill is absolutely a control tool and we will not stand for this and our legislators had better stand up to defend our personal liberties, the DECISION TO GET OR NOT GET A VACCINE SHOULD NOT BE IN THE HANDS OF ANY BUSINESS, CITY, COUNTY OR STATE GOVERNMENT BODY; THE VACCINE DECISION SHOULD ONLY BE BETWEEN US AND OUR PERSONAL DOCTOR ONLY!!!!!!!!!! STOP THE MADNESS. WE ARE WATCHING EACH OF YOU VERY CLOSELY.

KIMBERLY GRAHAM

Plano Texas

PLANO, TX

DO NOT VOT FOR THIS, IT GIVES THE GOVENOR TOO MUCH POWER AS WE HAVE LIVED, AND THE CHOICE OF TAKING A VACCINE OR NOT SHOULD ONLY BE DECIDED BETWEEN US AND OUR OWN DOCTOR, NO BUSINESS, CITY COUNTY OR STATE SHOULD BE INVOLVED EVER!!!!

Karen Mansfied

Individual

Wimberley, TX

I oppose this bill. It is obvious by now that the citizens of states who voted to expand the power of their governors suffered at great cost to their constitutional rights. The states of New York, Michigan, Ohio, New Mexico and especially California did no better in navigating during the pandemic than states like Florida and South Dakota. In fact, it can be argued, the extreme lockdown measures inflicted a greater economic disaster and created an atmospheric of incredible anxiety among citizens. The governor of California issued orders that had zero base in science. In fact he violated his own social distance orders and held a large party in his home. Mayor Adler of Austin did something similar.

When there is no check on executive power it is certain to become corrupt. After witnessing what happened in other states who gave extraordinary emergency powers to the legislature it amazes me to see this bill brought to the floor. Why? This bill is muddies the check on the executive branch of the government. It creates an opportunity for the governor to over reach power in violation of the Texas Constitution.

Sarah Matt

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Hello - My name is Sarah Matt. As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Jullie Wilburn

Self/Accounting

Fort Worth, TX

This is unbelievable! I can't believe this is even a consideration in the state of Texas! Please vote no on this and keep our state a wonderful place to live! Don't allow Texas to even remotely resemble CA!

Megan Bludau

Self

Montgomery, TX

This bill has several shortcomings. These provisions 100% violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO to HB 3.

Julianne Adams, MS

self/NST therapist

Kerrville, TX

I am a very concerned citizen in the state of Texas. HB 3 grants sweeping and in effect, dictatorial powers to anyone sitting in the governor's chair, enforceable by LAW. This bill casts a most chilling effect on freedoms in our state and that includes the ability to conduct business with the public without fear of destructive civil liability. It can undercut property rights, freedom of movement, medical freedom, right of informed consent, effectively allowing any governor to turn this state into a totalitarian fiefdom. I have looked at this bill. I have heard this bill debated by attorneys. I am very familiar with all its aspects. I URGE YOU TO VOTE NO ON ALL PROVISIONS OF THIS ABOMINABLE BILL.

Thank you,

Julianne Adams

Amanda Pelser

Self / Family - Small Business Owner

Livingston, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3 because this bill has many serious shortcomings.

First, any pandemic or emergency response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. We saw dictatorial issues with this type of power play out over the last year in states like California and New York with serious economic and social repercussions.

Secondly, although HB 3 says it provides protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it makes conditions for those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. This is intrusive and impedes the individual rights and personal privacy of Texas citizens.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

This is not the kind of Texas that I want to live in and raise my boys in. Texans are known for helping our neighbors and doing what's right while also maintaining our personal freedoms and liberties. HB 3 doesn't align with these values. We can do much better than HB 3.

Please vote no on HB 3.

Sincerely,
Amanda Pelser

Tracy Smith

Self

Montgomery, TX

Greetings from Texas- As a concerned citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill signals major red flags!

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

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Thank you, Tracy Smith

Pauletta Bonner

Grassroots America We the People

Flint, TX

HB 3 is an outrage to all Texans! We are citizens, not subjects for rule by executive decree. Governor Abbott did not have legislative authority to impose additional mandates during Coronavirus 2020. Going forward, his emergency powers should be limited and placed under legislative oversight and judicial review. HB 3 is exactly the opposite.

Texans want less government and more freedom to self-govern! While Governor Abbott rules over Texas like a king with unconstitutional mandates and seeks even further power over Texans in HB 3, Governors Kristi Noem of South Dakota and Ron DeSantis of Florida are promoting freedom from government tyranny in their states for their citizens. Governor Abbott, honor Texas values and align with more freedom and less government, like Noem and DeSantis!

HB 3 needs to be rejected and dead on arrival! Represent Texans and keep us free in the spirit of The Alamo!

Naomi Thompson

self

Rhome, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and

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Robyn Burnett

self

Richards, TX

All actions by the governor, whether an emergency response or not, should be subject to the checks and balances of the legislature. This bill fails to provide a requirement or mechanism to call the legislature into session should they not be in session during a pandemic. Additionally even though this bill claims to provide protection to business against liability the business must have complied with all pandemic related laws, rules, ordinances, etc. This could force businesses to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Worst of all it creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1000 for each violation which effectively forces individual to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent and religious liberty. Individuals and businesses should be able to make decisions on how to respond to pandemics based on their individual circumstances.

John Lovett

Self

Ned, TX

This bill in the current form is bad for Texas and bad for district 21. The Governor should not have such broad powers without Legislative input. we saw first hand how this worked and business and people are hurting from all the executive orders restrictions.

Thank you

John Lovett

District 21

Terri Higgins, Ms

Self. And the Constitution of the USA

Dallas, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas I am frightened.....,

Very frightened !

I also can not take the vaccine because every time I have taken a vaccine of any kind I have gotten sick,

Very sick! I have an autoimmune condition that prevents me from taking hardly any drugs at all.

I get back hives Every single time I got the flu shot I got very very sick.

I should have a choice as to what kind of drugs I
put into my body!

If this bill passes and I am forced the vaccine,

My life will be over !!!!! Because I will not take it

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Again if the bull passes my life will be over

Jennifer Carson

NA

Tyler, TX

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Jennifer Edwards

Self / Homemaker

Quinlan, TX

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management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Robert Edwards
Self / Hairdresser
Quinlan, TX

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Tara Knol
Self
Hallsville, TX

I am against this bill!! It is my right to chose if I want to wear a mask or not (which I haven't except in a dr office!)

Kay Cook
Myself
Kerrville, TX

Kill this bill.

Kathleen Winter
self/raisingchildrenright
Canyon, TX

This is not ok! The Government does not need any more control over our lives. They work for us. Especially during a pandemic. I do not support this bill in any way

Crystal Spencer

Self

Wolfforth, TX

This bill appears to be a good thing but it is very evident that it is NOT. We can not place restrictions on businesses that cause them not be punished for not following all of the “rules” put in place during a “pandemic”. We can NOT give the governor or legislature the power to shut our cities down for a perceived threat. This bill is NOT for the people and we WILL remember if it is passed and who supported it.

Angela Lea

Self

Leesville, TX

We need less government control not more! Freedom of Choice needs to be the norm!!!

Cody MCKINNEY

Myself retired nurse

KINGSLAND, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I want you to vote NO on HB 3 because any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. VOTE NO ON HB3 !!!!!

Tara Aycock

Self RN

Longview, TX

This bill is atrocious and gives one person and/or body of people too much power. Never should should be forced to injected unwanted substances into their bodies. Pandemic or not. Every person should be looking out for their own health and safety not the government. I oppose HB3

Wendi Rees

Magdalene Ministries International

Tyler, TX

HB 3 is an outrage to all Texans! We are citizens, not subjects for rule by executive decree. Governor Abbott did not have legislative authority to impose additional mandates during Coronavirus 2020. Going forward, his emergency powers should be limited and placed under legislative oversight and judicial review. HB 3 is exactly the opposite.

Texans want less government and more freedom to self-govern! While Governor Abbott rules over Texas like a king with unconstitutional mandates and seeks even further power over Texans in HB 3, Governors Kristi Noem of South Dakota and Ron DeSantis of Florida are promoting freedom from government tyranny in their states for their citizens. Governor Abbott, honor Texas values and align with more freedom and less government, like Noem and DeSantis!

HB 3 needs to be rejected and dead on arrival! Represent Texans and keep us free in the spirit of The Alamo!

Jeana Level

Self

Frisco, TX

I STRONGLY oppose HB 3. Please do not allow HB 3 to become law. As a Texan, I cannot support anyone who votes for this bill. Texas is begging you to do the right thing and kill this bill.

Jaxon Rees

Self

Tyler, TX

HB 3 is an outrage to all Texans! We are citizens, not subjects for rule by executive decree. Governor Abbott did not have legislative authority to impose additional mandates during Coronavirus 2020. Going forward, his emergency powers should be limited and placed under legislative oversight and judicial review. HB 3 is exactly the opposite.

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HB 3 needs to be rejected and dead on arrival! Represent Texans and keep us free in the spirit of The Alamo!

Charlotte Stevens, Ms.

Self

Carrollton, TX

Dear Legislator,

Please do not allow HB3 to become law. My strong opinion is that a Governor should have limited Emergency power and for a duration of 30 days. That is enough time for the legislature to meet and plan out solutions for the emergency. The Governor should not have the power to keep the legislature from meeting, and it seems counter-intuitive for the Governor to have the power to keep the legislature from creating a law that limits his power.

HB3 is the opposite of what I want to see. It centralizes all power to the Governor. It gives his Executive Orders the force of law. It also extends the duration of an emergency to as long as the Governor sees fit. HB3 allows the Governor to allocate all state financial and personnel resources to be used for the emergency including private property.

HB3 allows the Governor to suspend laws and regulatory statutes. Worst of all, it states that “An officer or employee of a state or local agency, or a volunteer acting at the direction of an officer or employee of a state or local agency, is considered to be a member of the Texas military forces.” It suspends the authority of other jurisdictions including the President of the United States and other Governors.

As a person who loves the checks and balances our wonderful state of Texas was founded upon, I urge you to prevent this legislation from moving forward. Please help the citizens maintain the freedoms we hold dear!

Sincerely,

Charlotte Stevens

Jace Rees

Self

Tyler, TX

HB 3 is an outrage to all Texans! We are citizens, not subjects for rule by executive decree. Governor Abbott did not have legislative authority to impose additional mandates during Coronavirus 2020. Going forward, his emergency powers should be limited and placed under legislative oversight and judicial review. HB 3 is exactly the opposite.

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Jim Rees

Self

Tyler, TX

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Texas values and align with more freedom and less government, like Noem and DeSantis!

HB 3 needs to be rejected and dead on arrival! Represent Texans and keep us free in the spirit of The Alamo!

William Tucker

Self - Sales

Ovilla, TX

We should not broaden the reach of government but rather limit it, I am NOT in favor of this aggressive legislation. We should limit governments role in all aspects of our life, not broaden it.

Kelly Chau

Self

Odessa, TX

No to HB 3

K jones

self

Monahans, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Aliya Mathiesen, Mrs.

Self

Georgetown, TX

I am strongly against HB 3 because over the past year I have watched Governor Abbot abuse his power as Governor with unconstitutional mandates. Texans were told that feeding their family and making a living wasn't essential. Texans were told that the only way to stay safe was to breathe recycled air through a mask. Texans were told to isolate, they were made to feel afraid of their neighbors and family members. And for what? A virus that has a 99.7% survival rate? I don't care if this virus had a 50% death rate. It is NOT the Governor's job to protect my health, it is however his job to protect my rights, and this bill would allow the Governor to continue playing Doctor with zero consequences. It would continue the delusional idea that healthy people are a danger to society. That I am somehow responsible for the health of others. Nowhere in the constitution is anyone promised a germ free society. There are thousands of viruses and bacteria, so to live as a hypochondriac for the rest of eternity or be forced to wear

someone else's fear on our faces is unacceptable. I will not sit here and pretend that so much of what has happened in 2020 was part of an agenda. An agenda that does not serve the interest of Texans. An agenda pushed by pharmaceutical companies to demonize people who dare to believe in their God given immune system, and their ability to reason/weigh the risks vs benefits. The Governor has NO authority in any circumstance to place himself above the constitution and declare anyone essential or non essential. He has no authority to tell me what I should put on my face and he DEFINITELY has no authority to tell me what to put in my body. I don't need a stimulus check, I don't need a vaccine, I don't need a mask, I don't need contact-tracing. I need the government to stay out of my business and let me live my life how I see fit. This bill is shameful and unAmerican. The Governor represents us, he does not dictate to us. Our rights are not in his hands to give or to take. Please stand up for the freedom of Texans everywhere and vote no on this bill. As adults, we are fully capable of making our own decisions based on our own research. If you want to remain a paranoid recluse for the rest of your life, so be it, but don't drag me down with you. Under no circumstances should the Governor be allowed to abuse Texans as he did during the Covid-19 pandemic. This is not about the severity of the virus, this is about protecting my right to think for myself and live accordingly. Those who sacrifice freedoms for safety deserve neither. Vote no on HB 3.

Evelyn Foreman

Self

Roanoke, TX

This Bill totally goes against our constitution. No one man ever has the right to be a dictator in any state, but Texas in particular. Our constitution guarantees our freedom of choice.

Kristine Mohr

Self

Allen, TX

Please do not allow HB3 to move forward to a vote. My strong opinion is that a Governor should have limited Emergency power and for a duration of 30 days. That is enough time for the legislature to meet and plan out solutions for the emergency. The Governor should not have the power to keep the legislature from meeting, and it seems counter-intuitive for the Governor to have the power to keep the legislature from creating a law that limits his power.

HB3 is the opposite of what I want to see. It centralizes all power to the Governor. It gives his Executive Orders the force of law. It also extends the duration of an emergency to as long as the Governor sees fit. HB3 allows the Governor to allocate all state financial and personnel resources to be used for the emergency including private property.

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As a person who loves the checks and balances our wonderful state of Texas was founded upon, I urge you to prevent this legislation from moving forward. Please help the citizens maintain the freedoms we hold dear!

Thank you

Angela Strobl

self

Bridgeport, TX

I fully disagree with this bill. I implore those that we voted for to listen to their constituents in order to remain in the running for

re-election in 2022! I OPPOSE HB3 and so should you. This is 100% unconstitutional.

Richard Blake

Self - Estimator

Tyler, TX

I strongly oppose this bill because after the tyrannical, panic/politically driven lockdowns and “non-essential” business shutdowns that have caused untold economic, physical and emotional devastation, the last thing Texas needs is to give legislative approval without legislative oversight to a governor who apparently has no qualms about violating our individual rights to life, liberty and property. Any legislator who is willing to place that kind of authority in one person is no friend of we the people and in doing so, makes a mockery of “consent of the governed”.

Laura Delaplane

self

Tomball, TX

This is unconstitutional!!!

Constance Miller

Self

League City, TX

This past year with the lockdowns and mask mandates has done irrevocable damage to thousands of Texans. It has been unconstitutional and an infringement on our God-given liberty. The exaggerated response to this virus has now set a precedent for any future health crisis. This is wrong. It has caused division, loss of businesses and livelihoods, ministries to stop, depression, addiction, and suicide rates to greatly increase. The psyche of our children has been changed by mandated mask-wearing in schools. Even now, with the mask mandate lifted, the schools are still going to muzzle our children. So many people aren't celebrating their freedom that should have never been taken away, but wanting to keep the mandates because of the Government fear-mongering them. One person should never have so much power that they can decide to lockdown people and muzzle them. This is America and Americans should have the ability to take risks or not take risks regarding their health. It should never be controlled by someone else. We should always have a choice. Loved ones have died alone, our elderly who are in nursing homes have been deprived of their families, and they will never get that back. HB 3 should not be even considered as it gives even more power for Government and leaders to control individual lives. We never want this to happen what happened this past year again. It was not a virus that destroyed people's lives, but the response to it that did. Vote no to this proposed bill.

Johnna King

self

Hewitt, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees,

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Brenda Platt

Wise County Republicans

Bridgeport, TX

I am asking to oppose HB3 and pass the Birdwell Senate bill instead.

Nancy Groves

True Texas Project, Registered Nurse Certified Oncology Nurse

Colleyville, TX

Please kill HB3. This past scamdemic has proven that we need a governor who is a leader that governs for the people by the people. The constitution is not to be put on hold for an epidemic. We need protection and a leader who will fight for our God given rights and freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution. Texans can take care of their own families and health without government interference as they ALWAYS HAVE.

Texas will be recovering for decades emotionally, economically, and medically from decisions made by the Governor Abbott and his unelected "Strike Force". It is appalling that one person would be allowed so much power in a Constitutional Republic. It is appalling that logic and common sense has been taken off the agenda for this alleged Pandemic. This virus had a 99.7% survival rate. There are proven therapeutics that are censored. The state was shut down. Texans did not receive and are still not receiving timely care for other illnesses far more serious. Coercion is not science, withholding data is not science, manipulating data is not science, social conditioning is not science, fear-mongering is not science, Pharma propaganda is not science. We need less government not more. Please use South Dakota as an example of GOOD GOVERNANCE during a pandemic. Incidentally they are doing fine without the tyranny.

Jerrold Gable

Self

Haslet, TX

Me and my family are completely against this bill and it's passage. I strongly urge my congressman to vote down this insidious government overreach of a bill.

Lloyd Walker

Self

Belton, TX

Please use this opportunity to extend legislative oversight of the governors authority. Any and all executive actions taken by the governor must be reviewed and approved by majority vote by both house of the legislator within 30 days signing.

Valerie Romberg

Family

Lipan, TX

This bill is bad for freedom, bad for Texans. And serves NO PURPOSE other than to restrict Texans, force mandates, and further diminish our rights as free human beings and property holders! Please do NOT pass HB3!

Linda Hunter

self, spouse, 2 small kids and mother moving here soon. Homemaker

PROSPER, TX

This is a bad bill. Please do not pass this junk out of committee. We escaped California and the tyranny of the one party rule. When this much authority is given to the governor he is subsequently open to lawsuits (which he will lose like Newsom who can no longer write executive orders) and recalls. We came here for freedom. Part of that freedom comes with checks and balances in government. If a democrat gets in as governor, this will turn Texas into California in a matter of minutes.

Ronda Murray, Ms.

self; homemaker

McKinney, TX

Please do not allow HB3 to become law. We need protection of the separation of powers in the 3 branches of government; this is the basis for our system of government in Texas and we should not alter it. HB3 centralizes all power to the governor and gives his Executive Orders the force of law. It also extends the duration of an emergency to as long as the Governor sees fit. A governor should have limited Emergency power and for a duration of 30 days. That is enough time for the legislature to meet and plan out solutions for the emergency. We need to strengthen our legislature, not give more power to one individual, the governor. As a Texan, I cannot support anyone who votes for this bill. I urge you to do the right thing and that is to kill this bill. Thank you.

Cj Howes

self/retired

Gary City, TX

What Abbott did is in line with a dictator. Quarantines are meant for the very sick with symptoms of very infectious disease, not for a bad virus. Never should it take away the personal freedoms of the population at large and ruin the economy. We should not be forced to wear a mask or take a vaccine, by any government, person or business. This behavior is expected in a communist country, not Texas, not the USA. This was propaganda from the media and politicians and is unconscionable. Never allow this to be done again. This power should not belong to one person and the governor simply abused his power with his edicts.

Colette Wisbauer

Self

Round rock, TX

I am very opposed to this bill. We have a balance of powers for very good reasons and this bill gives more power where it is not needed. Also, the CDC and WHO do not care about Texas. We do not need to have them making decisions for us. Throw this bill out.

Bonnie Barker, Ms

Self/Realtor

Kingwood, TX

Vote NO on this house bill. This is Texas and we need to be free from government overreach. I want to continue to live my life in this great state VOTE NO!!!!

M Lee Mikulec

Texas citizens

Inez, TX

Constitution needs to be followed at all times—NO EXCEPTIONS. Please serve us by doing the job you were elected to do. Stop making bad laws. Leave us, and our freedoms alone, like the 1st and 2nd Amendments.

Tami Cooke

Self/Homemaker

Richardson, TX

The government is not responsible for my health. I as a resident of the UNITED States am free to make my own choices about my health. I do not agree with how Abbott locked down our state or mandated masks that do not work. I do not want HB 3 to pass and ask that it be struck down as an over reach by our government. In the event of a pandemic, control appears to be what most leaders use against the American people. Initially their intent may have been to reduce the spread but then as information became available it was obvious that this virus like all other viruses cannot be contained by government control. If Abbott supports this bill I will not vote for him or anyone else that supports/supported this bill.

Taylor Morgan

Self

Dallas, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Amy Dickens

Self

Ovalo, TX

This is a terrible bill. The governor of Texas does not need this much authority. This bill can't be amended to make it any better. It

needs to be thrown in the trash.

Dennis Roberson

Self retired

Clear Lake Shores, TX

This is a very bad bill. The governor whether he is a republican or Democrat, does not need this power.

Kristyn Strickland

Self/Foster Parent

Ransom Canyon, TX

Trash it! It is absolute garbage.

Kathryn Alejo

Self

Boerne, TX

I am in STRONG OPPOSITION to HB 3, as I know my friend and family are as well. There is no reason that ONE person should have so much access and ability in making decisions for the entire state. The legislature exists for a reason. Thank you and please vote NO on HB 3!

Amy Zavala

Self

Wolfforth, TX

This bill allows the Governor far too much power over the citizens of the State of Texas. It is removing our rights and freedoms and allowing tyranny in this great state. Citizens, churches, businesses, etc. should be allowed to determine how they protect themselves and not forced to do so. I ask that you please do what you have been elected to do and protect our rights and freedoms by not passing this bill. Thank you.

Nancy Dietrich

Self

Flower Mound, TX

I respectfully request a "NO" vote on HB 3. Please keep Texas free and don't allow our governor any additional over reaching powers in regards to pandemic response. Thank you.

Elizabeth Anderson

Self

Tomball, TX

This is government overreach plain and simple. There is NO NEED for the governor to have the power to restrict citizens movement into, out of, and around the state! There is NO NEED for evacuations during a pandemic! The language and provisions included in this bill are deplorable and texans want no part of this to be passed!! VOTE NO on this detestable bill!!

Debra Migdad

self

Sugar Land, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Margaret Norbut

Self

Round Rock, TX

I am opposed to the intent of this bill. The constitution is not set aside in an emergency. In 2020 we observed governors including Abbott overstepping their power. We observed our liberties being crushed. We observed so much collateral damage to families, kids, and the elderly and small business. We need the governor to have less power and the balance of power to be brought back to our state. Each branch of our government has power to safeguard our freedoms. We need our legislature to do its job and make laws that protect our liberties and make sure the voice of the people is heard. Please do not let this bill be brought to a vote. It will harm Texas.

Alison Morrow

self

The Woodlands, TX

There are several issues with HB 3 that should concern any Texas citizen, and because of these I strongly urge the committee to vote NO. First, HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals, which is an overreach of the governor's power. Any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Third, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-

compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. These are simply unacceptable. Please vote no on HB 3.

Carmen Siman

Myself

Austin, TX

I am against giving the governor more unconstitutional power during any emergency. We the people have our inalienable rights and freedoms that shall not be infringed on again. These unconventional mandates and lockdowns have caused, and will keep on causing, more death and suffering than the virus itself. The killing of small businesses while giant corporations are deemed 'essential', and all other unconstitutional mandates have been used as a power grab for government and corporations. No more. We the people have the ability and responsibility to take care of our own affairs without government interference. No to HB3

Jayne Faulkner, Mrs

Self massage therapist

Longview, TX

Please vote against this bill.

Nikolaus Chanda

self

Georgetown, TX

This bill should be rejected without amendment. It is clear that this was drafted when the fervor and fear of the unknown prompted unprecedented and unjustifiable martial control. As we have seen this situation progress, it is clear that we don't need expanded executive control, but increased executive restraint.

No bill should be considered that doesn't start and stop with the need to protect individual liberties and limitations to executive power. The governor has acted unchecked and unelected appointees have been granted unconstitutional authority to negatively impact individual civil liberties and economic freedoms.

We have elected you, members of the House to represent us. It is your responsibility to manage and protect our personal interests. You must not abdicate your responsibilities to an unchecked executive branch or unelected office.

Patricia Jeter, Retired HT

Self

Longview, TX

Do not want an over reach by Governor as in Michigan, Virginia, California etc.

Lillian Steadman

Self, Homemaker

Round Rock, TX

I am requesting my representatives vote NO on Bill HB3 because, although the bill claims to not grant the governor authority to enact laws, under EXECUTIVE ORDERS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RULES it states, "An executive order, proclamation, or rule issued by the governor under this chapter has the force and effect of law." This completely disrupts the balance of powers. As we witnessed this past year, the governor refused to call a special session to discuss the response to the current pandemic. Every bill passed must uphold the constitution not circumvent it and it must maintain the balance of powers. Passing this bill could lead to dictatorial power. Vote NO on Bill HB3.

Jeffrey Steadman

Self, Accountant

Round Rock, TX

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Elizabeth Zacharias

Self , Homemaker extraordinaire!

Seminole, TX

This bill is far too many things in it to be passed as a whole since many of the items go against our state constitution. Please drop the items that are so concerning to so many Texans

Mary Parker

Self

Hutto, TX

We do NOT support a bill that allows government to circumvent proper channels and full representation. Government needs less power, not more. We will fully help campaign AGAINST any representative who supports this bill.

Ortrud Jaeger

self

Fort Worth, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protection for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with

medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3. There are many sound research studies to address non-emergent protocols to address, manage and control the SARS-CoV2 virus diagnosis. There have been grave and damaging approaches trialed within the last 12 months and beyond that ended up with worse results than exposure to SARS-CoV2. I urge you to allow for an exchange of scientific information to guide the decision-making over passing exclusive, binding, and damaging regulations and laws. I have worked for the Department of Health and Human Services, studied science and medicine, and am speaking from a base of front-line experience as a nurse and surveyor.

Share this post:

Laura Fair

Self

San Antonio, TX

We, the people are FREE. Our rights are not given by man and cannot be taken away by man. Stop pushing the tyrannical rules/mandates/laws in Texas. We need less government oversight, NOT MORE. Do not forget the government is meant to serve, not rule. The government is free to make recommendations and we, THE PEOPLE have the RIGHT to decide what's best for us first and foremost.

Whitney Floyd

Self- social worker

Garland, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Guadalupe Munoz, Ms

Self

Paige, TX

Dear Rep. Cyrier,

I am a concerned citizen from Paige Texas, and I strongly oppose HB 3.

I am just as concerned about the effects of the pandemic as anyone, but the effects of the lockdowns are in my view becoming a more serious problem than the pandemic itself. Our government's responses to the pandemic have placed us on course to dismantle the hard won rights and freedoms of our national constitution, and has greatly given more power to government than a

healthy democracy can bear.

HB 3 is not a healthy response to the pandemic! I urge our Texas state leaders to stand firm in their duty to protect citizens from overreach from government. HB 3 is leading us toward excessive government interference in the lives of US citizens.

This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Suzanne Werley

Self

Hamilton, TX

Honorable Committee Members,

I want to express why I am against HB3. I believe that many of the mandates enacted by Governor Abbott during the COVID-19 Pandemic violate the Texas and United States Constitutions. Under sec 418A.052 of HB3 the governor would have the power to make these mandates law and punishable by fines for noncompliance! Mask mandates, travel and capacity restrictions, lockdowns, quarantining of healthy individuals, social distancing, and designation of essential and nonessential businesses are a gross violation of our civil liberties.

Also, under this section, the governor has broader power to by pass the legislator and sign executive orders. I believe that creates a situation for dictatorial control.

Another great concern is the power the governor would have to enlist state employees into the Texas Military to “shelter and house” citizens under sec 418A.007. We do not need people to be forcefully “sheltered and housed” during a pandemic by quasi military personnel.

We must never lose sight of the fact that Texans are free people and are not to be corralled for any reason.

I am asking you to please vote no on HB3 to preserve the freedoms for all Texans.

Aditi Mukherjee

Self

Pflugerville, TX

Dear Representative - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. I would like to remind you of your promise to keep the interest of people ahead of any political gains. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with

medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

David Richey, Mr.

Self

Bastrop, TX

No governor should be allowed to keep a state of disaster proclamation in excess of one month without convening the legislature to vote for extension. No more authoritarian mandates by any level of government without a vote by the people's representatives or the people themselves. No one, government or business, had the right to restrict ones right to breathe. Period.

Debra Stearns

Self

Spring, TX

I am vehemently opposed to HB 3 and I ask that you oppose it also. I have a problem with the intent of this bill. I want our legislature to have the needed oversight to keep our Governor in check during a pandemic!

Sandy Bagwell

self

Lubbock, TX

Please, do not give more power to the governor. Please, please, look at the overreach already proven he can do by his beastly actions of this past year!!!

Daniel Smith

Self

Floresville, TX

No more power should be given to the governor to enforce tyrannical rule. Enough businesses were lost due to this last virus with a 99% survival rate. All liberties were lost during this Covid19 tyranny.

Melissa Wood

Self, Virtual Assistant

Pflugerville, TX

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings.

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions

those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

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Please vote no on HB 3.
Thank you.

Amber Brown
SELF
Keller, TX

This bill needs to be amended and is very unconstitutional as written. The state legislature should have say in long term disaster declarations. The governor has too much power in this bill. I'm am not in favor of this.

Carolyn Dupuis
Self
Abilene, TX

Vote NO! The governor has already overstepped his authority and ruled like a dictator bypassing the legislature.! Never again in Texas!

LUANNE Aydelotte
Self
Belton, TX

I oppose this bill as putting too much power in government hands. Smaller government control.

Kimberly Lloyd
Self
Addison, TX

I do not support this measure or bill.

Ramon DeWitt, Mr
Self
Red Rock, TX

This bill is another attempt to take control away from the people and give it to the government. Government of the people, for

the people, and by the people should not be infringed. This must be stopped!
Ray DeWitt

Joanna Moore

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Diana Bermudez

Self

Spring, TX

I oppose this bill and pray you turn this bill down in committee. The government does not need more powers pandemic or not. For the good of the future of Texas do not give more control to the government

Connie Marshall

Self

Weatherford, TX

Hi. My name is Connie Marshall- As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This is against some of the few freedoms I have left under the Constitution of the United States of America. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Vote No!!!

This is an emergency!!

Connie Marshall
385 Little Reba Ranch Rd
Weatherford, Texas. 76088

Jerry Adams
Myself
Gardendale, TX

Dear Representatives,
I ask that you vote no on HB 3. At a time in our state when we should be doing everything possible to safeguard our freedom, liberty and constitutional rights along comes this bill that would do just the opposite. I see provisions in this bill that would put Texans under the thumb of the federal government as in the part supposedly protecting businesses from lawsuits. All one has to do is read the bill to see this is blatantly flawed. The governor and representatives that support this kind of bill are not the people we want representing Texas. I am opposed to anything that gives this governor additional power as I don't believe he is on the side of conservative minded patriotic Texans and is instead doing the bidding of the people in power in Washington DC.
Thank You for your service to our great state.

Abigail Williams, Mother
Self— Mother
Austin, TX

I do not support.

Amanda Tiner
Self and my fellow Texans
Lumberton, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Crystal Latu
Self
Fort Worth, TX

This is not a good bill for Texans. We say NO to HB3! Our governor doesn't need more power. The legislature doesn't need to sit

back and give him more power then tell us when it gets tough it wasn't your fault but the Governor's. We are supposed to have three equal branches of government and the Governor should not have power to make law, emergency or not.

Jaime Westheimer

Self - homemaker

League City, TX

I am deeply disturbed at the content if the HB3 bill. As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3.

This bill has several shortcomings:

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature, not the governor. This maintains a healthy balance of power between the branches of our state government. HB 3 essentially allows the governor to declare an emergency state and renew it at 30-day intervals, without any clear oversight by the legislature. While the bill allows the legislature to terminate it, there is no provision for calling the legislature into special session to do so - that power resides in the hands of the governor. So if the legislature is not already in session, there is no way for them to reconvene and prevent the governor from abusing this power.

Secondly, although HB 3 intends to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, those legal protections are conditional on complying with all applicable pandemic-related directives by the government - yet HB3 does not provide any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. This is not the responsibility of businesses, or government - it is intrusive to both free business and individual rights.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals who violate any part of any emergency management plan, punishable by fines. This means this bill could also effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and other personally intrusive orders that any jurisdiction adopts, all under the coercion of the threat of personal or financial penalties.

These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and personal and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Marc Pitts

Self - Financial Service

Flint, TX

I would like to express my strongest opposition to House Bill 3. I think this bill needs to be killed immediately. It cannot be fixed. This is the worst bill that I have ever seen! It is a trojan horse dressed up as freedom and protection for the people to Texas. After witnessing the breathtaking and previously unimaginable restrictions on individual liberty due to COVID-19, the people of Texas want to see a sharp curtailment of Executive authority.

The emergency powers of the Governor need to be placed under legislative oversight and be subjected to judicial review. This bill does the exact opposite and massively expands the power of the Governor. The stated purpose of the bill is to "clarify and strengthen the role[] of the Governor." Any emergency action beyond a very short duration must be enacted by the legislature or be rendered invalid and unenforceable. This bill is simply unconstitutional and unacceptable. It's an insult to the people.

Additionally, the protections that this bill provides are largely imaginary or could easily be provided by stand-alone legislation. Other protections already exist under current law and the worst provisions undermine the freedom and security of Texans. Why on earth would we allow the Secretary of State the power to approve changes to our voting procedures? Why would businesses

want inadequate civil liability protections that might perversely subject them to additional liability? Why would the business community want a law that forces them to comply with constantly changing rules, regulations, and recommendations from a variety of governing bodies within and outside of Texas? This renders the protections essentially meaningless and subjects all Texans to the capricious will of federal authorities. How will expanding the power of the federal government protect the people?

Texans are a people with a government, not the other way around. The people of Texas are citizens, not subjects suitable for rule by executive decree.

I strongly urge each Representative to oppose HB 3. The people do not want this bill to advance out of committee, much less receive a favorable report. My family will be eagerly watching to see what happens.

Thank you for your dedication to the Great State of Texas!

Valerie Clary

Self

Tahoka, TX

Please say "No" to this bill. A governor, especially in the state of Texas, never has the right to become tyrannical. This bill will be unconstitutional; and will hurt many good-meaning Texans that believe in the right to liberty, even during a "pandemic". I implore you to say "No" to this bill.

Michelle Lopez

Self

Longview, TX

People in Texas should have the right to make their own choices whether to wear a mask or not and whether to stay home or not. Many have fought and even died so we could have such freedoms. Laws and mandates shouldn't override those freedoms but uphold them. Businesses also should be able to freely conduct their business without mandates that restrict their revenue and need for business. It is their chosen livelihood and government should help support and not mandate or create laws that impede them. Giving such control as this bill suggests is going against the very foundations of this great country and great state. People risked and gave their lives to start this country and state and escape tyranny so we shouldn't have mandates and laws that would put us back under such control. I'm thankful for Texas' independence and believe such a bill as this goes solely against what many bravely fought for.

It is my personal belief and conviction as a Christian that God gave us a free will and no governmental identity should make mandates that restrict our free will, including our ability to live our beliefs and convictions. I do not believe in wearing a mask yet if someone else wants or needs to wear a mask I respect that. However, we shouldn't all be told across the board to just wear one, especially when there hasn't been any real clear medical evidence to support such a request. Laws and mandates should respect our ability to make those choices as Christians and as Texans.

The Lord was clear in His instructions for me to not wear one and so I honored His request even if it meant I wasn't able to go places. It is also my personal belief and conviction that the Bible is Truth and I believe what it says regarding healing and health. If Jesus were here today, I believe He'd be going around teaching people about healing and healing people and He would do so without wearing a mask or social distancing. Jesus operated in faith and did as He saw and heard His Father. As a Christian, I believe the same and believe we need to go forward and not backwards in allowing people to live out their beliefs and not be controlled by governmental restrictions.

I respect other people's choices to stay home, keep their distance and wear a mask. I believe the government of this great state should respect people's abilities to make their own choices and not make mandates or laws that govern those choices, especially when it restricts freedoms so bravely fought for. And it restricts our ability to actually help others which is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Respectfully submitted. Michelle

Julianna Montealegre

Self realtor

Houston, TX

Please do not pass this bill!!!

Cynthia Massey

Self, Helotes City Council, Place 4

Helotes, TX

I represent a small city in Bexar County in South Central Texas. Helotes, population approximately 10,000. While I understand it is the duty of government to provide for the health, safety and welfare of its citizens, I also believe that the government does not always, and in fact, rarely responds in an equitable fashion to its citizens in such matters. Our town is primarily conservative in political affiliation but we live in a county that is and has been run by liberal Democrats for many years. As has become well-known, Democrats have been revealed to be authoritarian and draconian in their responses to the pandemic, using it as a political tool. Our business community and citizens have suffered unjustly from the unreasonable rules and regulations instigated by our Democrat County Judge. I understand the Texas Constitution gives the County Judge authority over Mayors in their jurisdiction in a Declaration of a Disaster. I believe that one of the aspects of this bill should include the abolition of this rule in a pandemic and to allow for Mayoral authority regarding pandemic response. This would put the authority where it really belongs—on a local elected official who can bear the sole responsibility for his/her actions and who knows better than a county judge the environment and needs of his/her particular town. Additionally, I am opposed to making the opposition of a pandemic response "a criminal offense." While I understand that laws have no "bite" without penalties, I have found the measures put forth by the state and counties to be in some cases, ridiculous, and in most cases have not prevented the spread of the virus, which occurs primarily in close continuing contact AT HOME. A civil penalty of not more than \$250 would be preferable, if a penalty is deemed necessary. Thank you for allowing my input into this bill.

Casey Montgomery

Self

Frisco, TX

This bill gives too much power to one person. Executive branch should not have legislative powers. Vote no.

Ashton Lancaster

Self - Realtor, Notary, Farmer

Whitehouse, TX

I am opposed to HB 3. It violates our US and state Constitution.

Katie French

Self

Seabrook, TX

This is a terrible terrible bill for Texas. This needs to be rejected at EVERY level. If you don't think Texans aren't vocal and angry and watching, you've got another thing coming. Eliminate this bill right away.

Wyatt Pemberton

Constituent

Missouri City, TX

Egregious overreach of power given to the Governor. This is not in the best interests of the people or the republic.

Amanda Bowen

Self

Palestine, TX

Texans trust their elected state representatives to create and make laws. Our constitution delineates powers across the various branches of government in order to guard the freedom of all people and to prevent one branch from usurping powers that would bring about legislation without representation. This guards minorities especially during times of crisis, etc. This bill takes away all safeguards, allowing our governor to create edicts that can be codified into law, potentially leading to further injustice and incarceration for minorities.

Gabriela Ahlheim, Mrs.

Self

Azle, TX

I am an Ex-Californian who fled from the clutches of Democrat tyrannical policies which have ruined what was once known as the "Golden State." If HB3 were to pass our great Lone Star State that prides itself on liberty, freedom and independence will be shattered. We would be no different than California as HB 3 would hand over more control to any sitting governor. HB 3 would bypass the proper process of the Texas legislature to openly debate or allow public testimony. HB3 will essentially obliterate our Texas Constitution. We are approaching one year of living with covid and it would benefit all of us as a society to learn from our mistakes and move forward. Instead, time, money, and legal resources are being invested into rewriting laws that take away powers from the citizens of Texans. This bill would also hand over more powers to the federal government and the CDC. For the past year, we have watched the CDC, WHO and so called "experts" expose themselves as being unreliable. We know for a fact that "lockdowns" don't work, we know for a fact that one mask doesn't work, since people like Dr. Fauci are now claiming we need two masks. We know the vaccine won't be 100% effective, that it only lessens symptoms, yet we still have to social distance and wear a mask if we take the vaccine. As these "experts" spout their inconsistent, unreliable, ineffective "recommendations" family businesses have been destroyed, suicide rates have gone up, depression and anxiety has escalated, people have lost loved ones for not being able to go see a doctor for other illnesses that aren't covid related, children have missed out on their education, addictions have increased, riots broke out in the streets and covid took center stage in changing our entire Presidential election process. It would be a great dishonor to the brave men and women of this state who have laid down their lives for freedom if HB3 were to be passed. We did not uproot our family to the great State of Texas only to watch the legislature mirror the policies of California. I urge you to vote NO on HB3 and dispose of it immediately. It is unconstitutional, unnecessary and unwanted. Thank you!

Robert Ahlheim, Mr

Self

Azle, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill if passed, will extinguish our Texas constitution and cause further damage to the Great Lone Star State. The citizens of Texas are strong, resilient, hard working individuals who know how to think for themselves. Texans will not stand by idly as the government attempts to override their God given constitutional rights. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Laura Shoulders, Mrs.

self

Keller, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Laura Shoulders

Lee Ann Wilson

Self, teacher

Fort worth, TX

I feel that our govt should always have the checks and balances of multiple chances to times to be approved. Our governor has enough power and doesn't need more without the checks and balances of Approval with the house.

Michael Openshaw

Self

Plano, TX

First, I'd like to thank Chairman Burrows for making the committee substitute available for citizen review prior to the hearing

date; I would hope all Chairs would show such courtesy to the public.

While the committee substitute is an improvement over the original bill, it still has too many major issues to be worthy of passage and therefore I must, with respect, oppose passage of HB23. The first truly showstopper is very simple: we already have epidemics addressed in Section 418, and the very definition of pandemic is merely an epidemic across many countries. Texas law doesn't pertain to other countries or even states so, from a Texas law perspective, there is ZERO difference between an epidemic and a pandemic.

While the creation of a 'Pandemic Legislative Board' IS an improvement, the bill still does not address the most glaring need: expressly denying the authority of the Governor to completely shutter or drastically curtail private businesses en masse without direct compensation. A lockdown power the Governor undertook on his own, a power that- sadly- proved INEFFECTIVE at substantially reducing the overall cases, hospitalizations & deaths associated with COVID.

This lack of significant effect is clear from the data across the country and across the Western world. With my first career being Medical microbiology and my second in data analysis, this lack of effect was obvious to me as early as last April in the results coming out of Italy, whose lockdown attempts literally forestalled NOTHING. Bottom line; government policies in terms of lockdowns and masking mandates made almost NO difference epidemiologically in the Western world; other factors and individual behavior outside the control of government kept the pandemic going on its course. But government policies DID devastate the economy, private enterprise, educational advancement and the mental health across this country and across this state. CDC's own studies demonstrate only MARGINAL impact of lockdowns & mask mandates of less than 3% of the overall numbers; in terms of deaths, likely saving less lives than accounted for in increased suicides from despair and isolation.

But even if these drastic government interventions HAD worked; they were simply wrong. Wrong from a freedom standpoint, wrong from a cost/benefit standpoint, and wrong from a Constitutional standpoint. I cannot support a bill that more or less validates that, and just alters the mechanisms of potentially doing the same government catastrophe again.

Jennifer Heyer

N/A

Austin, TX

No to HB 3!!!

Federico Osorio, MD

Self

Southlake, TX

Completely oppose this bill.

Jim Baxa, Dr

Self

Lubbock, TX

I oppose this bill under the current form. We need more protections from Governor tyranny in this bill. It needs to be amended to make it clear that the Governor can never make or suspend laws by executive order. We cannot have a bill that creates a new section for pandemics while keeping the existing emergency code for epidemics. It would be best to just strike epidemic from the emergency code so that no future Governor can do the evil that Governor Abbott did by shutting businesses.

Cynthia Lundberg

myself - a voting TX resident - a US citizen

Houston, TX

I would like an explanation of the benefit of 418.057 - Movement of people. Is this the ability to say shut down a town and set up a quarantine? In 418A.058 - why are you singling out the sale of alcohol? While I am not behind people drinking too much - is this fair to the person who owns a liquor store? Who is the Pandemic Emergency Management Director? is this a standing position or will it be appointed with each emergency? My biggest objection is 418A.104. No, Hell no, NO WAY IN HELL NO! only the state legislature should be able to change anything to do with voting - not just a secretary of state. That is what made such a mess out of GA in the 2020 election. If it is an immediate need the legislature can meet quickly or the election should be postponed.

DOUGLAS HINDS

Keller Texas resident

KELLER, TX

HB 3 should be opposed because it illegally grants legislative and criminal penalty power to the Governor in any future "Pandemic." Such powers are primarily vested in the Legislature and cannot be granted to the Executive Branch without an amendment to the Texas Constitution.

The two most repulsive provisions of the proposed The Texas Pandemic Response Act, HB 3 are:

- 1) An executive order, proclamation, or rule issued by the governor under this chapter has the force and effect of law, and
- 2) A person commits an offense if the person violates a provision of the pandemic components of a state, local, or inter jurisdictional emergency management plan or a rule, order, or ordinance adopted under those provisions.(b) An offense under this section is punishable by a fine only in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.(c) This section may be enforced by state and local officials.

If enacted this legislation will codify the Governor's massive power overreach and tyranny imposed on the citizens of Texas during the recent "Covid Pandemic." Worse yet, it makes his future executive orders Law and subjects violators to \$1000 criminal penalties enforceable by all law-enforcement. This adds insult to injury by adding criminal penalties and local law enforcement capabilities to all aspects of future executive orders, something the Governor mercifully did not subject us to during the recently concluded "Covid Pandemic."

So, in other words, this proposed legislation will criminalize legal activities such as exercising constitutionally protected liberties and freedoms and operating a business if contrary to an Executive Order. The entire state of Texas just endured over 8 months or tyrannical mask mandates and other restrictions unnecessarily imposed on the citizenry without any input from our Texas Legislature. This should never, ever happen again. Our voices need to be heard loud and clear through our locally elected Legislatures in the event of a future declaration of disaster. Tyranny never ends well for the citizenry and this recent experience was no exception.

Senator Birdwell's proposed constitutional amendment to input checks and balances on Legislature and Executive powers in future state disasters and emergencies, primarily by requiring Governor to call special legislative session 30 days after a Governor declared disaster is the proper legislative response, NOT codifying the recent Executive overreach.

Martha Duarte

Self / consultant

McKinney, TX

No

Angela Regis

Fatty's Bar

Kemah, TX

No HB 3!

RJ Smith

self-employed musician

SPRING BRANCH, TX

I'm a self-employed musician here in Texas' once thriving live music industry. In the space of hours almost exactly one year ago, I lost thousands in income as venues and shows began cancelling due to the governor's mandates. While I initially understood we didn't know what were dealing with, when the governor closed 51% bars on 3 hours notice on a Friday afternoon in June, all in a knee jerk reaction to a news article about the Houston hospitals and the bad press he was getting, he went far over the line without thought to the consequences to everyday Texans whose livelihoods he was affecting!

Despite being 90% self-employed, I was unable to access any of the PUA due to a "loophole" or black hole or whatever you want to call it that does not allow the TWC to look at your self-employed income if you have even 1 penny of W2 income! My W2 income was about \$400/mo and I never lost that, however, because I had ANY W2 income, I was expected to sustain the self-employed income loss.

The governor's mandates have permanently closed many venues. The live music industry will take at least a decade to come back. Many venue owners poured their heart and soul and life savings into these many times historic venues, only to see the never-ending capacity limits kill any chance at even breaking even. That's IF they were allowed to open at all!! Many 51% bars have only been open for a few weeks out of the entire year, due to the governor passing the buck to the counties so as to not actually have to take a stand! I'm in the trauma region that includes Del Rio so we were getting hammered with people crossing the border for treatment and then that counting against us in our numbers as far as business capacity goes! It was the height of injustice and illogical reasoning!!

WE CANNOT and MUST NOT give the governor's office ANY MORE power to continue to destroy businesses at will! There is NO Pandemic exception in either the Texas Constitution or the US Constitution and our founding fathers were far more familiar with epidemics than we are today! The Governor ABUSED his emergency powers! DO NOT EXPAND THEM!

Singling out SOME businesses as "non-essential" is the government picking winners and losers! 51% bar owners were not even allowed to open to sell hand sanitizer as the TABC basically held their property hostage based on the type of license and 1% in alcohol sales! Yet the "restaurant bar" was banking! This is absolutely wrong! No man's property may be seized for the public good without proper compensation!

Governor Abbott was well meaning, but through his own lack of common sense, combined with political ambition, he exacerbated the situation.

We MUST NOT give such power permanently to the governor's office. Instead, require that ANY Emergency declaration that involves closing businesses for longer than 30 days CAN ONLY BE RENEWED by the TX Legislature. WE ARE NOT A MONARCHY!! Such power must NEVER AGAIN be left to one man!

VOTE NO to HB3!!

Beverly Beadel

Self/ School Counselor

Lake Jackson, TX

I strongly oppose HB 3.

Teresa Parnell

Myself a Texas citizen

Watauga, TX

Please say NO to this bill. It is not good for Texans.

Diane Sloan

self - citizen of Texas

Denton, TX

Please do not give the governor of Texas unconstitutional powers during emergency or pandemic. Please vote against HB 3.

Tonia Procenko

Self

Tomball, TX

This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Linda Nuttall

Cypress Texas Tea Party

Houston, TX

HB 3 is unacceptable to freedom-loving Texans.

- Rather than limit executive overreach, it strengthens executive authority in opposition to the direction of the people in the platform and the legislative priorities.
- The governor must renew a declaration of emergency every 30 days—however, he can do that without input from the legislature. And the legislature can only act if he calls a special session, which this bill does not require him to do.
- It allows local election officials to forego election laws, using a pandemic emergency as an excuse. All they have to do is get written permission from the secretary of state, who is granted full decision-making power, doing an end run around the law and the legislature—problems we witnessed in other states this November and fought hard to prevent here in Texas.
- The bill uses criminal penalties and fines up to \$1000 for those who don't obey his rules or those of state, local, and

interjurisdictional government; only the legislature should be able to make laws that criminalize behavior.

Kinsey Armstrong

self, Nurse

DICKINSON, TX

I am deeply disturbed at the content of the HB3 bill. As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3.

This bill has several shortcomings:

First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature, not the governor. This maintains a healthy balance of power between the branches of our state government. HB 3 essentially allows the governor to declare an emergency state and renew it at 30-day intervals, without any clear oversight by the legislature. While the bill allows the legislature to terminate it, there is no provision for calling the legislature into special session to do so - that power resides in the hands of the governor. So if the legislature is not already in session, there is no way for them to reconvene and prevent the governor from abusing this power.

Secondly, although HB 3 intends to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, those legal protections are conditional on complying with all applicable pandemic-related directives by the government - yet HB3 does not provide any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. This is not the responsibility of businesses, or government - it is intrusive to both free business and individual rights.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals who violate any part of any emergency management plan, punishable by fines. This means this bill could also effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and other personally intrusive orders that any jurisdiction adopts, all under the coercion of the threat of personal or financial penalties.

These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and personal and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Amy Palm

Self and conservative voters in my area

League City, TX

Pass this bill and an extremely large group of us will make sure to clean house in this next term. Keep your hands off our civil liberties or you will pay the price with your legislative positions.

Michelle Stroud

Self/housewife

Brazoria, TX

I do not want this bill to pass. It gives government too much power.

Dena Stoxen

self

Cookville, TX

I am requesting a NO vote for HB 3, as a concerned Texas citizen. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between the branches of the government. HB3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing or interventions for their employees, vendors or customers. Thirdly, HB3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, intervention and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Anita Kissee

self/ Frisco Conservatives

Aubrey, TX

We say NO to this bill! only the LEGISLATION creates laws and are used to keep leaders in check on their power- Please say NO

Brandon Burden, Chairman

Frisco Conservative Coalition Political Action Committee

Frisco, TX

Dear Committee:

One of the top legislative priorities of Frisco Conservative Coalition's Political Action Committee is curtailing the governor's emergency powers. HB3, authored by Rep. Burrows, does the exact OPPOSITE of what we are asking the legislature to do.

Under Section 418A.052, it declares that an executive order, proclamation, or rule issued by the governor has the force and effect of law. I thought it was the legislature's job to make laws. Why are we giving the governor law-making power?

Furthermore, according to Section 418A.053, the governor may extend the state of a pandemic every 30 days unless terminated by the legislature. We all know that the only person authorized to call the legislature back into the session is the Governor. Did he do it during the pandemic of 2020? No, he did not. This section of the bill is absolutely unacceptable to FCC.

In addition, Section 418A.056 gives the governor the ability to commandeer any private resources needed for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency services during a pandemic disaster. This is absolutely ridiculous, and makes us feel as if we are back in the American Revolution of 1765. Will we be quartering the governor's soldiers in our homes and businesses? Will we be forced to convert our church facilities into pandemic shelters, virus testing facilities, or vaccination distribution centers? As a pastor, I am completely horrified by this section. This MUST be removed.

This bill, in essence, gives the governor carte blanche power to create a virtual police state based solely upon his or her discretion and removes all meaningful legislative oversight. It is fundamentally flawed, needs to be thrown out, and we need a bill that actually CURTAILS the governor's emergency powers. Fellow Texans, we can do better! This bill is absolutely ridiculous.

Sincerely,

Brandon Burden
Chairman
Frisco Conservative Coalition
Pastor
KingdomLife Church Frisco

Karl Schafer-Junger, 130
self
Frisco, TX

I am against this bill because it gives the governor too much centralized control and power. TY Karl

G Mercier
self; engineer
Elgin, TX

This proposed Act lists as one of its purposes to protect and preserve individual liberties guaranteed under the United States Constitution and the Texas Constitution. But the Act does NOT meet this purpose. The most egregious example is Section 418.173's provision for criminal offense for failure to comply with any pandemic component of the State Emergency Management Plan or local order, ordinance or rule adopted under it. There is NO provision for evaluation of whether such local orders, ordinances or rules follow the higher laws, or whether they exceed in severity the higher laws.

Section 418A.103 does not give the practical, immediate ways in which a citizen can apply to, or make the governor aware of local orders, ordinances or rules that are inconsistent with, or exceed in severity the governor's orders, declarations or proclamations. Although Section 418A.103 indicates that these local orders or rules for pandemic are superseded and void to the extent that they are inconsistent with the Governor's higher actions - in practical terms how would a citizen, arrested by local rule ostensibly compliant with 418.73 but actually violating the citizen's civil liberties, have recourse to justice?

This Act certainly gives assistance and free legal advice from the Texas Attorney General to directors of emergency management and to county judges, commissioners and mayors (reference Section 418.193), but where is the Texas Attorney General when a citizen is arrested for, say, doing something that's guaranteed them as a religious freedom? Where is the Texas Attorney General for that citizen? Where is the Governor for that citizen? Who will bother to evaluate whether that citizen's civil liberties have been violated under a local rule that falsely appropriated unto itself powers that it misuses?

Municipalities and counties experiencing budget crunches due to the recent Texas Snow Week will likely view Section 418.173 as a wild card for replenishing revenue. They will not care that they violate civil liberties if they get up to \$1,000 per person arrested. Section 418.174 gives personal liability exemption for members of local and regional emergency planning councils and committees. This Act blatantly creates a situation whereby members of local and regional emergency planning answer to No-One; the local municipalities and counties that pass orders and ordinances answer to No-One; and since No-One bears responsibility for transgression of civil liberties, many local entities will indeed transgress civil liberties. Texans vote, and they might vote for No-One that currently sits in the Texas House if civil liberties are blatantly ignored like this. I demand that Section 418.173 be removed from the Act.

Alan Vera
Self. Marketing Consultant
Houston, TX

HB 3 is unacceptable to freedom-loving Texans.

- Rather than limit executive overreach, it strengthens executive authority in opposition to the direction of the people as expressed in the RPT platform and by the RPT legislative priorities committee..
- The governor must renew a declaration of emergency every 30 days; however, he can do that without oversight by the legislature. And the legislature can only act if the governor calls a special session, which this bill does not require him to do.
- It allows local election officials to forego election laws, using a pandemic emergency as an excuse. All they have to do is get written permission from the secretary of state, an unelected official who is granted full decision-making power, doing an end run around the law and the legislature. Texas sued 6 other states at the Supreme Court for doing exactly what this bill calls for.
- The bill uses criminal penalties and fines up to \$1000 for those who don't obey the governor's rules or those of state, local, and interjurisdictional government. The bill includes no due process procedures for such offenses. Nor does it refer to due process procedures elsewhere in the Texas Code.

Every tyrant in history has used the excuse of a "crisis" or a "serious threat to the common good" to seize power. This would be no exception. Please kill HB 3 here in committee.

Dennis Dowdell

Self

McKinney, TX

HB3 creates a state that is run by an ungoverned Governor instead of laws created by legislators elected by the people.

Elizabeth Hall

Self

Groves, TX

I am speaking on behalf of SETX.

We do not want anymore lockdowns or mask mandates. We definitely don't want to be vaccinated. It is our right as a human beings to choose what we want for ourselves! Let us decide what we should do from here. All our children deserve better! Let our children go to school without mask or the vaccine! We have happy and healthy children! I will not sit down I will continue to stand for freedom! I am Christian and I believe God is our creator! Let us decide what's best for our bodies and our way of life!

Laurie Adams

Self

Center Point, TX

Sometimes I feel I can hardly recognize my native State of Texas. This proposed legislation is the absolute worst bill ever introduced in the Legislature. It's appalling. I urge every single member to oppose this draconian proposal, that affects our property rights, our medical rights, our freedom of movement and grants DICTATORIAL POWERS TO WHOMEVER THE GOVERNOR HAPPENS TO BE! No, no, no, a million times NO.

Bryan Graham

Self - Facilities Manager

LITTLE ELM, TX

We have elected legislators for a reason. The Governor is in the Executive Branch, not Legislative. The country has a separation of powers for a reason...so one branch doesn't have all power and the three branches maintain a checks and balances on each other. Please do not give the Governor the power to create laws without going through the legislature.

Jim Crockett

Self

Center Point, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. PLEASE vote NO on HB 3.

David Rostcheck

David Rostcheck

Frisco, TX

I think this bill is ill-advised; executive response is supposed to be brief (30 day) and require review of the legislature for extended periods; moving away from that is a bad idea and I oppose it.

Carla Jones

self

IRVING, TX

I am very opposed to government controlling my decisions on how to respond to supposed health emergencies/a pandemic disaster. I do not believe that all supposed responses are equal for each individual. God made my body to be in good health without outside intervention. I do not believe my rights to decide where to go and how to live should be determined by government. Please do not take away my freedoms or make me a criminal for believing differently than others about how to react to a pandemic

Russell Dunn

self

McKinney, TX

I oppose this bill. We should be further limiting the Governors executive powers not expanding or making them law. This

exactly opposite of what we should be doing.

Nancy Chesser

Self

McKinney, TX

Very bad legislation! No more power to politicians!

Lynn Giovannetti

Self

Austin, TX

As a Texas voter I urge everyone to vote no on House Bill three as I feel it is unconstitutional. No governor should have such supreme power no matter what.

Patricia Taylor

Self

McKinney, TX

I oppose HB3. Abbott already illegally overreached his power during the "pandemic". We do not need him or any other Governor having such power.

Peggy Stodola

self

CARROLLTON, TX

This bill would create a law that would allow the governor of Texas to in essence "create law." The governor's role should be limited to enforcement of laws. I am opposed to the governor's mandating lockdowns and mask requirements during the current COVID issue. I believe he overreached his authority, and I don't believe the legislature should pass a law that would INCREASE his ability to deny the citizens of Texas the right to work, the right to assemble together, the right go out into the community, etc. We (citizens and elected officials) should stand strong against the infringement of peoples' rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The governor should not have the right to commandeer any private resources needed for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency services during a "pandemic." Why in the world would we want to give the governor carte blanche power to create a virtual police state. What state are you living in?? My father, my husband and my father-in-law were career Army and traveled in many different countries and states. When my husband retired, we chose to be Texans because of the values and principles that made this a great state. Instead of expanding the governor's powers, we should be curtailing and limiting them. I SAY NO TO HB 3.

Janna Turner

self

Turkey, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power

between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

BECKY BROWN

self

Irving, TX

I strongly oppose HB3 as a native Texan I have seen the best and worst of Texas policies. This bill does not stand with my Christian beliefs of freedom guaranteed by our US Constitution . Giving to much over reach for abuse by either party.

Anamaria Grelus, Project Manager

self

Frisco, TX

I Say NO to HB3!

Randy King

Self

Eules, TX

The historically unprecedented coronavirus lockdown of healthy citizens in 2020 was probably the worst public policy decision in my lifetime, if not all modern time. There were no demonstrable benefits, yet the costs were immense! Now that the Legislature is in session, Texans have the opportunity to reform the laws that lead to this policy failure. However, HB3 as proposed appears to codify into law all the governmental abuses that citizens of Texas were forced to endure since the beginning of the nightmare pandemic disaster declaration.

Rather than restraining the authority of the governor and local executive officials, HB3 guarantees them the authority to do essentially whatever they want in response to a pandemic, without any input from the people's representatives in the legislature. The bill fails to enact any reforms to add limitations or oversight to the governor's emergency powers. HB3 does not impose any time limit on executive orders after which legislative ratification is required. It also does not solve the issue of how to challenge illegal executive orders in court.

No executive or official at any level of government should be allowed to suspend or curtail fundamental rights and civil liberties guaranteed in the constitutions of the United States and Texas. Among the fundamental principles that have led to our success as a nation and state are that: 1) We are ruled by laws, not men; and 2) To avoid corruption, and ultimately, tyranny, power in government should be decentralized and widely distributed among competing branches.

An additional shortcoming is that HB3 only applies to pandemics. There are problems with disaster act declarations and executive orders for other types of disasters, and HB3 does nothing to address those. That means that executive overreach could still happen in a disaster declared for some other purpose than a pandemic.

The emergency powers of the governor should be drastically limited, placed under legislative oversight, and subjected to judicial review! Since HB3 does none of these, I recommend that this bill be killed. A new bill should be drafted that, at a minimum, accomplishes these three objectives.

Brad House

Self

Frisco, TX

HB 3 can not be made law. It grants too much power to the governor. Taking private property, restricting the public's movement should never be in the control of one person, ie, the governor. Additionally, HB3 allows the governor to continually renew a pandemic disaster after 30 days on and on. HB 3 also makes it a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for violations of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. It's completely unconstitutional, can not be "fixed" and must never become law. Thank you.

Alan Stearns

Self - Informed Citizen Researcher

Spring, TX

I am opposed to this bill for numerous reasons, one example of which is the conflicting verbiage between the following two sections:

Sec. 418A.004. LIMITATIONS. This chapter does not:

(1) grant the governor authority to enact law;

Sec. 418A.052. EXECUTIVE ORDERS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RULES.

(b) An executive order, proclamation, or rule issued by the governor under this chapter has the force and effect of law.

Given this & other areas of concern, I respectfully ask that you vote NO to the passage of this bill as written.

Kari Schneider

None

Porter, TX

No to HB 3! Make that a HELL no!!

Leigh Wilcox

Self

Frisco, TX

I am strongly AGAINST HB3; we should never give any governor such unchecked powers, presently or in the future. We have a legislature which can be called into emergency session as needed and this should always be utilized rather than giving too much power to one man or one woman.

Robin Thomason

Self

Arlington, TX

NO to HB3. Governor Abbott has already abused his power when he locked down the state and mandated citizens wear face diapers. Texans don't want or need an emperor and HB3 is an attempt to do just that.

Julie Minnis

Self

Austin, TX

Please oppose HB 3. The Governor should not have so much power in an emergency. Power needs to be shared with the legislation. Thank you.

Natalie Decesare

Pacific Legal Foundation

San Antonio, TX

Emergency executive power, when unchecked, is a violation of the constitutional separation of powers and a threat to liberty, and HB 3 does not do enough to curtail it.

Texas needs a more comprehensive solution than only addressing the concerns specific to this crisis. Without a first principles approach, we are attempting to predict the behavior of future governors for unknown emergencies.

Pacific Legal Foundation has been working for 47 years to stop government overreach, and in the last year we have seen unprecedented issues.

Rather than focus on what a pandemic response ought to look like, consider how the executive branch should be permitted to engage when there is an emergency at hand. It is appropriate for a governor to possess emergency power when an issue is emergent and volatile—hence, an emergency. But after some time, an “emergency” becomes a serious chronic issue. At that point the governor’s power to unilaterally affect law and potentially restrict constitutional liberties must end.

The emergency power is given to the governor from the legislature, and it is appropriate for the legislature to put limits on that power, in both scope and time. We suggest incentivizing the governor to call the legislature into an emergency session when seeking to extend an emergency order longer than 30 days. The legislature can then extend, limit, or end the order. The governor must also be restricted from re-issuing the same or a substantially similar order following the original order’s termination.

As a further check on government overreach, the judiciary must be empowered to protect individual rights and liberties. Even if the legislature were to agree with a governor’s emergency order, it does not mean that the Constitution no longer applies. Courts must evaluate the order under strict scrutiny, ensuring that any suspension of rights is narrowly tailored to effect specific, compelling public health or safety purpose.

The courts must also consider the way in which these orders can result in unequal treatment of individuals or businesses. Throughout this pandemic, we have seen government repeatedly violate equal protection rights by choosing which entities and employees are “essential.”

Though the ideas behind HB 3 are laudable, these are insufficient to protect against executive abuse of power through emergency

powers. We ask that the Legislature look at this first principles approach to address long-term solutions to government overreach while also curing unconstitutional emergency powers of the recent pandemic response.

Pacific Legal Foundation believes in individual liberty: that when people are free to live peacefully and productively, without interference by government, they improve themselves, their families, and their communities. Learn more about our emergency powers work at <https://pacificlegal.org/emergency-powers> and please let us know if we can be of assistance on this matter

Vivienne Menikos

Self/Accountant

Mansfield, TX

I am very much against this Bill. We in TX want a small government not a huge overreaching one. One man should not be able to decide the fate of millions of free thinking Texans, especially those that run a small business to feed their families. This pandemic could have been fixed by hanging out antivirals, antibiotics, zinc and aspirin to the sick. As well as advocating for healthy practices like Vitamins and losing weight. Health does not come in a pill or a vial.

Voile Willis Jr, Mr

Republican Party of Texas

Schulenburg, TX

Dear Sirs and Madames:

It is urgent that you unanimously reject this bill. The Governor and County Judged have already overstepped there constitutional powers by the COVID Mandates they previously instigated.

Passing laws, is you well know is the mandate of the legislature. Please do not allow this dictatorial license to proceed further.

Yours in Christ,
V. J. Willis Jr.

Jodie Heard

Self/Freedom

Fort Worth, TX

I would like to appeal to the State Affairs Committee to please vote AGAINST the HB3 bill as it will strip Texans of freedoms and self-governing. It will wrongfully expand the powers of the governor and government to force mandates that have proven ineffective in this pandemic. The lockdowns have been more disastrous and damaging than the covid illness itself by creating increased depression, suicide, unemployment, homelessness, alcoholism, violence, abuse as fear tactics and stress have been laid heavily upon citizens. Please vote in favor of the people, freedom, and right values by voting AGAINST this horrible bill!

Michelle Austin

Self / employed

Frisco, TX

This is a BIG TEXAS NO! Do NOT pass this warped and underhanded bill on Texans. The Governor does NOT get Carte Blanche of private resources and freedoms, Ever.

This is ridiculous and a dangerous way to think. Do not Ever compromise our freedom again and start with throwing this bill right in the trash can.

Suzanne Williamson, Texas Resident and Daughter of the Republic
Self
Groves, TX

This bill gives SOLE and SINGULAR power to any Texas Governor to do as they wish!

That is flat out un-American, un-Texan and against any republic form of government under the Texas and US Constitution.

This bill must be killed!

HB 3 gives a Texas Governor the permission to suspend ALL laws and authority to proclaim martial law.....NO, NEVER!

Yes, it states that the Texas Legislature can end a Governor's pandemic orders, but let's be realistic. The Lege meets every other year for 140 days so we can only hope and pray that any pandemic would happen during this time frame. That's not a lot of comfort.

This bill gives a Governor the right to commander personal property: NOT right!

This bill gives a Governor the right to control the movement of EVERY human in Texas not just the sick and infected: NOT right!

This bill gives County Judges and Mayors the same powers as the Governor without County Commissioners or City Council input. More dictators: NOT right!

This bill gives any local elected, Secretary of State, etc the freedom to CHANGE election law at the last minute like what just happened in Pennsylvania in the last election: NO!

This bill fines people \$1000 for anything under an order a Governor draws up: NOT right!

This bill suspends the sell/transportation of alcohol which means more people are "non essential": NOT right!

This bill allows the Governor to determine what a pandemic is. Could be the common cold. It's not defined in the bill: NO!

NO Governor in any state should have the power to suspend law!
EVER! That's the definition of a dictator.

What should happen is if an emergency order is called for a pandemic, it automatically triggers a Special Legislative Session. Do not leave it up to the Governor to call one.

This bill codifies a Texas Governor's right to over reach during a pandemic.

Please do not be a part of the Texas Legislative Session that comes to be known for handing over dictator like power to a Governor.

Ben Zeller, Victoria County Judge
County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas
Austin, TX

Dear Chairman Paddie and the Members of the House Committee on State Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on our concerns about the local government provisions in the Committee Substitute for H.B. 3, Pandemic Responses. The COVID epidemic has certainly brought these issues to our attention.

The current emergency management statute (Chapter 418, Government Code) includes an epidemic in the definition of a disaster. The responsibility for disaster response is tiered, beginning with the mayor, then the county judge, and finally the governor. Disaster declarations by the county judge must be approved by commissioners court within seven days. While coordination is required at every level, in the event of a conflict, the decision of the county judge prevails over the mayor under Section 418. 108(h)(2), and the decision of the governor prevails over the county judge. This statutory provision insures an appropriate chain of command and efficient use of resources.

The Committee Substitute for H.B. 3 would create a new framework for a pandemic disaster. C.S.H.B.3 tracks many of the current provisions of Chapter 418 with some notable exceptions. Unfortunately, it does not include the provision establishing the chain of command for local pandemic disasters. Please add the following language in the appropriate section: "To the extent of a conflict between decisions of the county judge and the mayor, the decision of the county judge prevails."

The C.S.H.B. 3 also adds a new provision (Sec. 418A.104) that will freeze the tax revenues for any county or city that "issues an order requiring the closure of a private business in response to a pandemic." This language is extremely broad. It would penalize any county or city that closed a single business for a single day in response to a pandemic. If a county or city needed to close a transport company for a single day to prevent the spread of an extremely virulent disease to other parts of the state, its tax revenues would be frozen at the "No-New-Revenue" Rate for a year. We respectfully request that this provision be carefully reviewed for unintended consequences.

Thank you for your public service and consideration. Please let us know if you need further information.

Victoria County Judge Ben Zeller
State President, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas

Crystal Burt
Self
Canyon Lake, TX

Pkease do not vote this in .we have enough government interference in our lives ,and we do not need morestate or federal rules and mandates. Please use common sense judgement in this.

Molly Covey
Self
Humble, TX

It's insane that you believe the Governor merits EVEN MORE power during s pandemic that Abbott has wielded. I strongly OPPOSE this bill and hope you'll listen to Texans in regards to it. Laws should be made by legislatures, not governors. This makes him a dictator and is not what freedom loving Texans want. The power was so overstepped in the last year that Abbott scored a 0 in the CPAC straw poll recently. Rip this bill up and set it on fire. I can't stress how strongly we the people feel about this bill!!! VOTE NO, NOPE, NEVER, NO WAY! Clear?

CHERYL MORRIS
self
Argyle,, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power

between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Priscilla Hill

Self

Port Neches, TX

As a resident of Jefferson County of state of Texas, I request that you not vote for this bill. I feel our government is created with 3 branches so that laws have to go through a chain of command before they are passed. I do NOT favor giving one person so much authority.

Rena Hobbs

self

FARMERS BRANCH, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO NO NO NO NO on HB 3.

sandy Hayes, MS

SELF. CONTRACT LABOR IN MUSIC WITH SCHOOLS (when in session0

GEORGETOWN, TX

I RESPECTFULLY ASK THAT YOU DO NOT SUPPORT THIS BILL. To grant authority with legislative approval or the approval of the citizens which this type of bill would require, is unconscionable. I am so incredibly distressed by the almost complete government control by the federal government. Now, to have Texas follow suit leaves me wanting to scream. PLEASE SIR!!! This bill is another giant step to government control of our already "too" controlled lives. In no way to I support this bill. I will be watching, and whomever votes for it will never receive my vote. This government agency should be about the American People and not about more government control. In Texas, to have a bill such as this even come, is shocking. PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL. Thank you. Sandy Hayes

Carla Gordon

Self

Austin, TX

I do not support this bill (HB3) and hope that it will not pass!

Rachel Wilson, Dr.

Self

Georgetown, TX

I do NOT support this bill. As your constituent, I urge you to vote no on this bill.

Hi,

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Sharon Cannon

Self and my parents

Allen, TX

I am against HB3 because I do not want ANY Texas Governor from either race having too much power - not even during a pandemic! Thank you for your time! Respectfully, Sharon Cannon

Kristin Mahrer

self/entrepreneur

San Antonio, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen and entrepreneur, I urge you vote NO on HB 3. It has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. As a small entrepreneur business/ full time mother I can not afford

these extreme measures for such a small client base.

Mask wearing imposed on a local and state level also was detrimental to my business as a photographer. Children would confuse me as a doctor and scream or refuse to smile. Clients in a portrait session obviously don't wear masks and many would request me not to wear one since it scares their children. This freedom of choice and forced mandated use of a medical device was inappropriate for this particular industry of business. Many people including myself have already experienced this virus December 2019 that then locked down and declared an emergency by March 2020. Therefore it is unethical for forced compliance to any pandemic measurements when there is less than a 1% risk of reinfection.

Therefore any medical interventions should be between health care providers and patients and have no place in politics. Politicians should not be burdened with how to keep people safe or scare people as Ron Nirenburg and Judge Wolf have in San Antonio to "Stay home Stay Safe". These campaigns are about fear and control.

Private businesses are reported and fined for the slightest violation and then written up on the wall of shame, which is KSAT News. This is obviously used as a way to scare the public from supporting these small business owners. If you read the list of citations you will agree how horrible and the abuse of power during pandemics are.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent. These decisions should be between patients and their medical providers. Please vote No to HB 3!

Sonja Boles

Self

McKinney, TX

Vote no. Imagine what could happen with the wrong leadership.

Kelly Emanuel, MPH

Self

Frisco, TX

Good morning. My name is Kelly Emanuel. I have a Master's in Public Health in Health Policy & Management and over 20 years of experience in the healthcare industry (I.e. hospitals, insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, etc.). I representing myself as a private citizen today, and I am respectfully asking you to oppose HB 3.

My family and I are new residents of Texas. We moved to Texas all the way from New Jersey in large part to escape NJ's Emergency Health Powers Act (EHPA). NJ's EHPA is similar in many ways to HB 3. The NJ EHPA was put in place after FEMA's failed response to Hurricane Katrina. NJ's EHPA was well intentioned but it has had devastating, unintended consequences in this past year. NJ is still in a state of "public health emergency" over a year after its initial COVID19 public health emergency declaration. Because of NJ's EHPA, NJ's Governor Murphy has been the sole decision maker. He has been able to rule (not govern) by fiat. The EHPA has rendered the NJ legislature and the people it represents essentially powerless to object to his decisions.

Like NJ's EHPA, HB3 is also well intentioned. However HB 3 could also have similar unintentional, disastrous consequences. While HB3 provides a legislative check and balance, it does not outline what the Texas state legislature would be able to do if they are not in session at the time of the public health emergency. It also consolidates too much power in the hands of one person.

The state of New York has also had similar issues with the emergency health powers it enacted last year. NY's state legislature is currently trying to reel in the emergency health powers it granted to its governor.

Over the years, the state of Texas has been able to manage successfully through many public health emergencies without

consolidating this much power into one person's hands.

My family and I moved here in large part because sweeping emergency health powers like those outlined in HB3 were not the law in the state of Texas. On behalf of my family and myself, I am respectfully asking you to oppose HB 3. Thank you for your time.

Wanda Sweeney

SELF , CITIZEN

Liberty Hill, TX

Please let there be No expansion of the government's authority over Texan's individual rights to choose, vaccines or other pandemic related decisions. Taxes, properties, & our US Constitutionality guaranteed rights. Vote NO on HB3. Thank you
Wanda Sweeney

Amanda Baldwin

Self

Midlothian, TX

Good morning- As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers- which blurs the lines of HIPPA. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Donnis Baggett

Texas Press Association

Bryan, TX

We recognize the need for more clarity and focus in governmental response to disasters. As written, however, the bill suggests that news media "may be required to transmit or print public service messages." This poses an unnecessary confrontation with the First Amendment,. It also implies that Texas media are unlikely to cooperate in conveying important information to the public at critical times, which is hardly the case. We suggest that the word "required" be changed to "requested." That is all it would take to resolve a potential and unnecessary constitutional conflict when cooperation, not litigation, is called for.

Cindy Cardenas

Self

Del Rio, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Diana Richards

Self

Sherman, TX

Although I am here to express that I oppose the passage of HB3, I absolutely Thank you, Chairman Burrows, for making the committee substitute available for us to review prior to the hearing date.

Epidemics are of course already addressed in Section 418, and the very definition of pandemic is merely an epidemic across many countries. Texas law does not pertain to other countries or even states so, from a Texas law perspective, there is no difference between an epidemic and a pandemic.

While the creation of a 'Pandemic Legislative Board' would be an improvement to HB3, the bill still doesn't address the most glaring need: expressly denying the authority of the Governor to completely shut down private businesses across the State without direct compensation.

We have to have learned from 2020 that shutting down the economy was a mistake. We now have much higher unemployment AND the Oil Industry being targeted by our Federal Government. Please do not pass HB3 out of Committee.

Julie Tranbarger

Self my occupation is none of your business

Cypress, TX

Vote no. Gives to much power to take our liberties away. Keep the criminal fine. Criminal actions deserve fines. This bill if passed as written is criminal.

Adrianne Mathis, Mrs.

Self

Lufkin, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I am strongly urging you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances,

declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Dagian Carpenter

Self

Midlothian, TX

As a freedom loving citizen of Texas, I ask that you vote NO on HB 3!

The governor should NOT be given the sole authority to declare a pandemic disaster and renew it at 30 day intervals. That's entirely too much power being given to one individual, which seriously undermines the checks and balances of government.

Also, HB 3 suggests that businesses will be protected against legal liability regarding such a pandemic, however that protection is conditional on total compliance with all pandemic related regulations, mandates, and ordinances without providing any limits on what can/ will be required of businesses. This means the government could force business to engage in practices that go against the rights and privacy of employees, customers, or vendors by requiring medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, etc. The government should NEVER have a say in how a business operates during a pandemic or not. PERIOD.

Lastly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

Please vote no on HB 3.

Hilary Rabeler

self

Southlake, TX

This bill is unconstitutional in every sense and should be killed immediately. As a Texan who values my right to choose what's best for me and my family, I am very opposed to any legislation that would restrict our God-given freedoms. No one should be punished for making a health/business/education decision that is best for them, and this bill attempts to do this through legal repercussions. Please vote NO for HB3.

Terri Wiggington, Mrs

Self

Pasadena, TX

As a Texas citizen I am asking that you oppose this bill. This is an overreach of power by the governor!! Please oppose this bill. Thank you.

Beth Buresh

Self- Property Manager

Fort Worth, TX

Hello,

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote no on HB3. Although this bill states a pandemic disaster may not continue for more than 30 days, it also states it can continuously be renewed according to the wording in this bill. It mentions the legislature may terminate at any time but does not specify that a special session must be called if the legislature is not in session. This is concerning. Page 5 of this bill would ultimately hold a business liable for the spread of a respiratory virus if they were not complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government. This could result in businesses being forced to require testing, contact tracing, treatment, and anything else the federal government comes up with that day. Lastly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Kristin Browne

Self - marketing

Colorado City, TX

As a concerned 5th generation Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Sherri Clopton

Self. Escrow assistant

Georgetown, TX

This is a really bad idea. The overreach by elected officials during the covid "pandemic" CANNOT become the norm. Def NOT law. Elected officials are supposed to work FOR the people, not lord power over us. The damage to individuals and businesses could very well be permanent. Do not legislate this into law. Chunk it!!

Tamara Page

Self

Boerne, TX

Ordinances that restrict our constitutional rights should always be voted upon by the legislature to avoid abuse or error in judgment.

JOHN TOWERS

Myself and other freedom loving citizens

PLANO, TX

Since when do we suspend the Texas and U.S. Constitution for a supposed pandemic? Have we learned nothing from Cuomo, Newsome, Gretchmir, etc.? Do we really want that for Texas? Nobody I know wants to give our elected representatives more power, but rather reserve that power for WE THE PEOPLE!

Monique Gomez Doolittle

Self

San Antonio, TX

This piece of legislation that is being proposed stands strongly against what this state and country stand for. We are not a monarchy being led by a king or queen. No one should have such broad unchecked power. This is not what the people of Texas want or deserve. You have allowed fear and greed take control of your free thought and desire for liberty and freedom. You have taken a oath to uphold and protect the Constitution and handing over such power to 1 person is in clear violation of this oath. It is time to get back to basic Constitutional and human rights. Enough of the fear and control. Step back and take a good look at what you are actually willing to hand over and remember regardless of party no one person should ever be given such power.

Victoria Rios

Self

San Antonio, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Frank McElhannon

self/Frank McElhannon

Ft. Davis, TX

Vote No. I do not consent to this bill, even with modification.

Allison Frey

Self

Grapevine, TX

I am against this bill!

Kay Tyner

self

Houston, TX

I oppose this bill as an over-reaching expansion of Executive powers. This bill would lessen the power of the citizens and the legislative branch. Under this bill, the governor would have the power to declare an emergency and renew that declaration without input from the Legislature. Although the bill allows the Legislature to overturn emergency orders, only the governor has the ability to call a special session. If the pandemic emergency were inconsiderate enough to occur in an even numbered year or in the fall or winter, that provision is totally useless.

I also oppose the portion of this bill that allows local election officials to disregard state election codes during a pandemic emergency. It only requires approval by the Secretary of State who is appointed by the governor, not elected. Harris county tried a lot of "innovative" changes to the way elections were conducted; most were not successful. The election process is complicated; trying to rush through untested changes, even if well-intentioned, is very unwise and can result in skewed elections.

I urge you to scrap this bill in its entirety.

G Mercier

self; engineer

Elgin, TX

This proposed Act's Section A418A.056 (c) gives the governor authority to commandeer or use private property if the governor finds it necessary to cope with a pandemic disaster, subject to compensation requirements of Subchapter G, Chapter 418. But the compensation is limited to an agreed-upon amount or to the amount that the private property owner would receive if his property were condemned. Most likely the private property is in better condition than typical condemnation condition, otherwise the governor wouldn't bother to use the property. Properties with locations offering potential for use as lodging of disaster workers as per Section 418.1882 Personnel Surge Capacity Planning (large tracts upon which lodging can be built) certainly are of prime real estate worth and owners should be compensated fairly rather than with "condemnation" amounts.

Another aspect relates to mandatory evacuation of areas under Section 418.185 and to the identification of areas vulnerable to disasters. The state emergency management plan and local plans are tasked with identification of these areas. Such identification is quantifiable and delineated by floodplains in the case of areas vulnerable to flooding. But how can identification of AREAS VULNERABLE TO a disaster of AN INVISIBLE VIRUS be identified? Any attempt at such identification would be arbitrary. Yet Section 418.042 State Emergency Management Plan (EMP) states that all or part of the the plan may be incorporated to regulations of the division or to executive orders THAT HAVE FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW. Applying the force of law onto an area that has been arbitrarily identified is irresponsible at best, and at worst horrifying, because according to section 418.185 mandatory evacuations can be done via actual physical force - and one presumes via use of weaponry.

Additionally, applying force of law onto an area that has been arbitrarily identified tempts local development speculators to sway the contents of the EMP to identify areas that will garner profits for the speculators and contractors in the near future, during rebuilding (418.134 (b) (6)).

annette bennett

FBG tea party, repub chair

Fredericksburg, TX

I am against HB3. The governor should be able to declare an emergency, but the legislature should be called back into special session within 21 days if such a declaration is made. The governor has no right to make laws - only the legislature. No governor should be given the powers they would be given under HB3. I respectfully ask that you do not pass HB3

Ellen Leyrer

Self

Plano, TX

I am against HB3. Thank you.

Shelia Favor

Home

Mansfield, TX

I am opposed to HB 3. The governor should not have this much power. Please vote against it.

Christi Burton

self

Fort Worth, TX

I do NOT support HB3 and ask that this is not passed. We need less government overreach.

Ronesa Bass

Give us freedom!

Sanger, TX

Give us our freedom!

jennifer johnston

Self

mckinney, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being

effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

Please vote no on HB 3.

Many Texans are watching this closely and are STRONGLY opposed. Thank you for your consideration.

Beck Dennis

Dennis family / IT

Frisco, TX

I'm speaking for my household and my family. The approach to the COVID pandemic was overly politically charged and went against our constitutional and GOD given inalienable rights. Gov. Abbott made statements that he would not hinder our rights and with the restrictions, mandates, and lack of scientific evidence for lockdowns and masks he did just the opposite. I oppose this bill that would give the governor too much power over the people and the ability to proclaim a pandemic of any sort with powers to renew restrictions and mandates without any accountability. Our legislative body has a function to oversee unjust and unconstitutional laws and mandates upon Texans. This is not acceptable to try to slide this in after giving us back rights that we've had all along. HB 3 must not ever be passed nor should any bill that seeks to grant the governor or any individual this kind of dictatorship be allowed or even entertained.

Thank you for your time and reading my opposition tonHB 3.

Thank you,

Beck J. Dennis

Joni Boyd, RN

Self. RN

Keller, TX

Please vote NO on this bill!!!

Mary Faithfull, Executive Director

Disability Rights Texas

Austin, TX

Disability Rights Texas (DRTx) is Texas' designated Protection and Advocacy (P&A) agency. We provide a wide range of services for people with disabilities to ensure that their rights are upheld and that they are not discriminated against on the basis of their disability. We also work to ensure that the needs of people with disabilities, including those with complex needs, are met so that they can live as independently and fully as possible.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed flaws in our state's disaster preparedness and emergency management plans, including the disconnect and misalignment between public health and other emergency disaster agencies. Until now emergency management in Texas has focused on natural and man-made disasters which differ vastly from pandemics. Emergency disaster management largely excludes public health considerations, and does not require coordination with local or statewide public health agencies,

something that has been detrimental to people with disabilities. HB 3 broadly aims to create a pandemic planning system to help the state navigate public health disasters; however, without clear direction for coordination and collaboration among state and local agencies, and stakeholders, any plan will continue the disenfranchisement of people with disabilities, furthering negative health outcomes for this already vulnerable population.

The first listed purpose of HB 3 is to “reduce the vulnerability of residents and communities in this state...from a pandemic disaster.” As we’ve seen through things like health care rationing and dangerous situations in nursing facilities, people with disabilities have been treated inequitably during this pandemic. Currently Ch. 418 designates the Texas Department of Emergency Management with the oversight and implementation of the States Emergency Operation. To truly reduce the vulnerability of Texans during a pandemic, plans must include a clear path of communication and coordination among all agencies involved. It is also imperative that any plans created by HB 3 are done in an inclusive and equitable fashion, bringing to the table people familiar not just with the emergency needs of vulnerable populations, but with how to prepare at-risk populations to cope with a pandemic.

One component of HB 3 that is of particular concern to the disability community is the broadening of the qualifications of a person able to render aid during a pandemic. Having adequate medical staff is critical during a pandemic; however, it must be done responsibly. To protect Texans, “due considerations” given to a person’s qualifications should also include examining whether or not a volunteer has a criminal conviction barring employment or licensure, in Texas or in other states. This is particularly important for a medical special needs volunteer who serves our most vulnerable during a pandemic disaster.

Thank you for your commitment to these important issues and for the opportunity to provide comments.

Courtney Burns

Self

Southlake, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Terri Schroeder, Mrs.

Self - High School Teacher

string:RICHMOND, TX

Please vote no to HB 3. The Governor should not ever have unlimited power. We have the other branches of government to keep power in check. No one should be allowed to have absolute power.

Sarah Moore

Self

Fort Worth, TX

This bill is bull crap! No! No! No! Do not pass this. We will not comply. Thank you. FREEDOM.

Linda Hare

Smith County

Whitehouse, TX

Donor support this bill

Betsy Price, Mayor of Ft. Worth

The City of Ft. Worth

Ft. Worth, TX

Thursday, March 11, 2021

The Honorable Chris Paddie
Chair, House State Affairs Committee
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910

Dear Chairman Paddie and State Affairs Committee Members,

The COVID-19 global pandemic brought unforeseen and unprecedented challenges to all levels of leadership, including both state and local government.

One year ago this very week, the State government, along with local governments, issued their first disaster declarations in response to the pandemic. Undoubtedly, there are lessons to be learned as we continue to evaluate our response to the early days of this global pandemic, and we appreciate Chairman Burrows and the House State Affairs Committee for proactively taking steps to do so. However, as Mayor of Fort Worth, I want to share some concerns about House Bill 3 as it is currently written.

As the Mayor of Fort Worth, I am elected directly by the citizens of my city to perform my duties in the best interest of Fort Worth and its residents. I know the resources, community partners, and city functions better than any state leader possibly could, simply by nature of being in and around the City. Unfortunately, the language of H.B. 3 as currently written is unclear as it relates to the powers vested in the Office of the Mayor during a pandemic disaster.

In particular, I am concerned with the removal of language in the first version of HB 3 Sections 418A.101(b) which stated mayors could exercise the powers granted to the governor on a local scale. The removal of this initial language brings to question what the powers of a mayor are during a disaster and if mayors will be required to follow the state or city's emergency management plan.

A secondary concern is the language in Section 418A.151 that provides a penalty if there is a failure to comply with the emergency management plan. This language in Section 418A.151 potentially creates a liability for mayors, creating an undue burden on local officials during a pandemic.

I am asking that clarification be made in Section 418A.101 as it relates to the mayor's powers and the emergency management plan, and for a revision or removal of Section 418A.151.

Thank you for your continued leadership to the state of Texas. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Betsy Price
Mayor

Allison Lopez

Self

Watauga, TX

It is ludicrous and unnecessary for our government to have more power in the control of people. The government is meant to work FOR the people... NOT to feed an individuals hunger for power. This bill would take away more constitutional rights than you can imagine and strip the people of the power they are intended to have. NO TO HB3!!! Shame on those that want to take our personal responsibilities away from us individuals.

Shellie White

Self, educator

Wichita Falls, TX

Hello,

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Lisa Duran

Self - self employed

Lago Vista, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. It was extremely disappointing that no Special Session was called during the past year. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly,

HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Christopher Lien

Self / software development

Fort Worth, TX

I stand strongly opposed to this bill. During this last year, the level of government overreach in this country has been obscene. Texas has a pretty strong reputation as one of the most liberating states in the union, but it didn't live up to that reputation in 2020. We're no longer free when one man can effectively shut down the economy in the State of Texas, cause incredible financial and emotional damage to its citizens, confine people to their homes, define a new dress code, and create criminal penalties for anyone who doesn't comply.

This bill would not only legalize the overreach our governor has already practiced, but give him even more dictatorial power over the people of this State. The passage of this bill would be incredibly damaging to the freedom of the State of Texas. The level of power granted in this bill should never belong to one man. The government needs checks and balances so that our freedom is protected. This bill puts too much authority in the executive branch, and it needs to be struck down.

Power like this belongs in the hands of the people; not the office of the governor.

Allison Hodges, Mrs.

Self

waco, TX

House of representatives,

As an American registered voter and a tax payer in your district, I vehemently oppose HB3. I am officially requesting that you use the power and influence bestowed upon you to not only vote no on HB3, but to raise awareness of the atrocities within the bill. Texas is a leader among the states and I am counting on you to be a leader for the people of Texas.

Thank you,
Allison Hodges

Caitlin Dickey

Self

Grapevine, TX

To whom it may concern - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under

the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Randall Hodges, Mr.

Self

Woodway, TX

House of representatives,

As an American registered voter and a tax payer in your district, I vehemently oppose HB3. I am officially requesting that you use the power and influence bestowed upon you to not only vote no on HB3, but to raise awareness of the atrocities within the bill. Texas is a leader among the states and I am counting on you to be a leader for the people of Texas.

Thank you,

Randall Hodges

Andrew Dickey

Self

Grapevine, TX

Greetings - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Autumm Peiser

Self

Saginaw, TX

I do not agree with this bill. It goes against our very constitution. It takes away our rights and our freedoms as american citizens. Please do not approve this bill.

Hugh Peiser

Self

Saginaw, TX

I do not approve of this bill. It goes against the constitution and my rights as an american citizens. Please do not approve this bill.

Timothy Lien

Self, engineer

Midland, TX

Do not pass HB 3 which gives dictatorial power to the governor who has already demonstrated willingness to use it. This is an insult and an assault on the freedom of Texans.

Thomas Fabry, Citizen

Self

Tyler, TX

HB3 is not “fixable!” It grants sweeping new pandemic emergency powers to the governor and doubles down by proposing virtually meaningless liability protection for businesses in Texas. KILL THE BILL.

1. Existing law grants too much executive power over the lives of people and businesses. Legislation should be curtailing, NOT broadening, emergency powers vested in the office of the governor. The new powers proposed in HB3 would have the de facto force of law – that is blatantly unconstitutional, even to the point of allowing the governor to create a virtual police state with no meaningful legislative oversight.

2. HB3 backers assert it creates civil liability protections for businesses during a pandemic. But those protections are only applicable to those that comply with the plethora and often conflicting directives issued by state and federal bodies. In practical terms, the protections are meaningless.

3. Texas has experienced the economic devastation, citizens physical and mental deterioration, irreplaceable education losses, and closure of countless businesses. Why would the legislature abdicate its constitutional authority to the governor? Why would the members of either party refuse to defend the checks and balances on government overreach (especially executive overreach)?

For these reasons, HB3 is NOT FIXABLE. Instead, I strongly recommend you pass legislation to restore the balance of power between the legislature and the governor, curtail and clearly define the governor’s emergency powers and then limit the duration of such powers to a few days’ time. Any executive action beyond these parameters should be invalid and unenforceable.

Thank you,
Tom Fabry

Mary Lien

Self, retired

Midland, TX

Please Do Not Vote in favor of this bill. The governor’s response to this pandemic overstepped the authority granted to his office by our state constitution, and this bill seeks to strengthen this transgression by making it law. Please oppose this and all future attempts to usurp and transfer the God given rights of individual citizens to state, and ultimately federal, authority.

Faith Wolfe

Self, Teacher

FORT WORTH, TX

Please vote "no" to this bill. Thank you

DeAnna Smith

Parents

Arlington, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Stephen Summers

self retired

Cedar Creek, TX

Do NOT pass this bill as is! we do NOT want the Governor or ANYONE with the power to MANDATE a vaccine or to penalize us if our mask slips off our nose. this is ridiculous and is the work of paranoid control freak anxiety germaphobes. We are watching and we WON'T vote for you again if you vote for this draconian b.s.!!!

Chris Petsch

Self

Klein, TX

Two things we don't need in Texas: 1. a power hungry Governor that bypasses the legislature. 2. A governors destroying small businesses. HB3 gives a Governor more power during a pandemic. In one breath, Governor Abbott said Texans gave the freedom to choose to wear masks and can't be fined. The next thing we know, he's taking away those freedoms. He's letting liberal mayors & county commissioner dictators lock down the economy.

Burrows says this bill saves small businesses and does not allow them to be sued. That is only if the business follows federal, state & government recommendations/regulations. So if federal law requires 2 masks, and Texas requires no masks, the bill allows for an individual to sue a small business.

This bill is absolutely disgusting in how it has lots of "pork" like in DC. No representative should vote for this bill!

jodi (living woman and not my trading name) :mueller

Myself and 2 family members. I am restoring LAW!!

Grapevine, TX

This bill is a crime against all of humanity!! Burrows is an attorney!!! Attorn = TURN OVER!!! He and others are turning all living men and women in Texas over to socialism by allowing this vile bill to go through!! I and thousands of other Texans now know about the Trust Trading Name in all caps. We also know about Agenda 21 and Agenda 2030 plus Event 201. Burrows needs to be behind bars for this and so does any legislator supporting this bill. Martial law is not going to be tolerated. Neither

is socialism and Sharia Law!! Enough is enough!! I have already handed out over 10,000 flyers regarding crimes all of you are committing. Do NOT pass this BILL!!! MY entire family is against this!! I do NOT support this bill or this communism!!

Melissa Rowell, Honorable

Precinct 480

Houston, TX

I am against this bill as it currently reads. No restrictions for the governor.

Jennifer Barry

self, Scrum Master

Frisco, TX

Last year was marked by Governor Abbott repeatedly exceeding his authority. Under the guise of protecting the public from COVID-19, he closed businesses, services, and government buildings and mandated what clothing people had to wear. This proposed bill would go even further, making a proclamation by the governor equal to a law, and allowing him to extend an emergency for months without any oversight. Even worse, he could seize private property if he deemed it necessary during a pandemic. I strongly oppose HB 3 as it's unconstitutional and dictatorial.

Avery Renegar

Self, homemaker

Edinburg, TX

As a concerned Texan, I urge you to vote no on HB 3. This bill goes against Texas values, which values independence and freedom from government control. I have always been proud to be a Texan and from multiple generations of Texans. This bill is downright in opposition to everything Texas stands for and is unconstitutional. My concerns are vast when it comes to HB 3, and I pray that y'all recognize the major issues with it and will continue to protect individual freedoms and give more power to your constituents and less power to the state.

Maliya Rodriguez

Self- Respiratory Care Practitioner

Southlake, TX

Hello ,

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB3. These provisions under this bill all violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote NO on HB 3.

Jewel Johnson, Mrs

Self

Coppell, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to PLEASE VOTE NO on HB 3.

This bill has many problematic . First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the

legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to act alone. Amen lthough HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections onHB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Thank you.

Lindsay Johnson

Self

Keller, TX

I do not support HB3. It is historically the worst piece of legislation to be heard in committee. More government power is not the answer, now or ever for Texas.

I'm a fifth generation Texan. My greats built Georgetown, Leander, and Brownwood. As members of the "First 100," they fought for this great state, and for its future. They would scold any representative who was for this bill and deem him/her a traitor. They would never applaud this much power in one place, which in the wrong hands, could be extremely abused. This bill does not exemplify who we are as Texans. It is a slap in the face of those who believed that the power should always remain in the hands of the people, and not the government. It's very message is an infringement to the Texas Constitution. No more Abbott, and all who support this bill. We are watching you every step of the way. We are rising up to stand for Texas. I hope you will realize the error of your ways and stand with the majority of people who love Texas and want to see it prosper.

Tammie Grantham

Private citizen

Grapevine, TX

Please vote against this!!

Patrick Bewley

Self

Carrollton, TX

I do not agree with this bill. The governor of the state in a 3-part government should not be charged with making laws. In fact, one person alone should not have this power. This responsibility is reserved for the elected congress to discuss and vote or to be put to the people for a vote. If this law goes through, what happens when it's not a great person in power, the balance of the 3-part government is upended. This is not a good law and I will not cast my vote for a representative who votes in favor of this law. Please use your history and be mindful of individuals who are given power to make laws in emergency circumstances. It's a very small leap to unbridled authority. Vote NO to HR3.

Amy Bewley

Self

Carrollton, TX

This bill is a gross overreach of the executive branch. Never under ANY circumstances should an executive order have the effect of law. You as legislators should do everything in your power to protect your branch of government, keeping the separation of

powers in balance. I'm shocked that a legislator would sponsor this. Do not pass this horrible bill. Vote NO on HB 3.

Mandy Ramsey

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Please vote no for this bill. We do not support giving the governor and the state more power and control to shut down our businesses and mandate masks wearing and social distancing.

Pam Haynes

True Texas Project

Keller, TX

I strongly disagree with passing this bill. We need to keep Texas the same

Karen Land

self

Levelland, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. The governor should not have more power to lockdown our state during pandemics through executive orders. It nearly ruined our economy. Many small business have had to close.

Marian Beth Usher, Mrs.

self

Austin, TX

Please vote NO on HB-3.

Sincerely,
Beth Usher

Ann Williams

self

Plano, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

Please vote no on HB 3.

Barbara Isaacs

Self retired

Fairview, TX

I stand strongly against HB 3.

It takes away the checks and balances needed by our state elected officials and places it in the hands of our governor.

I was shocked at the beginning of the covid pandemic that governor Abbott acted on his own and spent \$295 million dollars with MTX technology to hire them to begin contact tracing on all Texans. This was done without the state legislatures meeting to discuss and vote. Also, he closed what he considered non essential businesses, churches and schools...or, reduced the number of people who could be inside each building. This put millions of small businesses out of business...and many families are struggling to feed their families and pay their mortgages due to these reckless decisions. This has harmed our Texas economy exponentially! It may take 20 or 30 years to rebuild the businesses that have been destroyed. Also, we have a generation of uneducated children. This has mentally damaged many children and adults and torn families apart...due to poor Texas leadership.

Less than 2/10th's of 1% of the population died due to covid. 99.9% of the population is healthy. There's several good prescription medications readily available to treat covid patients. There was absolutely no reason to close our schools, churches or, businesses...or..reduce occupancy. Children were never at risk of becoming seriously sick with covid.

Also, mandatory masks was a terrible thing to require by governor Abbott. Scientists and doctors clearly stated that masks are harmful. Humans shouldn't breath their own carbon dioxide.

A team of doctors should have been consulted and the state legislatures should have met before any of these decisions were made.

Please OPPOSE HB3..and stand with our constitution and freedom for the people of Texas.

We need Less government mandates in Texas.!

Cindi Castilla

Texas Eagle Forum and self (volunteer)

Dallas, TX

I must submit this testimony for Texas Eagle Forum from home as I am temporarily on oxygen after a battle with Covid-19.

We are against HB 3 for several reasons:

1. Our Constitution only gives lawmaking power to our Legislative branch of government.
2. Any governor under this proposed law could make him/herself a king of Texas for all practical purposes as this bill is written. Amending it will not make it acceptable.
3. The goals listed as purposes for this bill are outside of the constitutional role of government in Texas, except Chapter 418A.

002(4) stating; protect and preserve individual liberties guaranteed under the United States Constitution and the Texas Constitution.

4. Section 418A.002(7) is of particular concern. The words “clarify and strengthen the roles of...” put the citizens of Texas under a level of power not prescribed by lawmakers in Texas.

5. Sec. 418A.004 claims it does NOT (1) “grant the governor authority to enact law;” while Sec. 418A.052(a) gives the governor power to “issue, amend, rescind an executive order, proclamation, or rule...” and further in (b) states “An executive order, proclamation, or rule issued by the governor under this chapter has the force and effect of law.”

6. True lawmakers are given a fake power in Sec. 418A.053. It states that the legislature by law may terminate a state of pandemic disaster at any time but does not create a provision to call yourselves into session. Only the governor has that authority. Would the sitting governor retain veto power over a law to end a state of pandemic disaster?

7. Sec. 418A.007(b)3: While claiming to protect a business from liability for an injury “caused by exposing or potentially (seriously??) exposing an individual to a disease...” a business must have “made a reasonable effort to comply with applicable FEDERAL, state and local laws, RULES, ORDINANCES, DECLARATIONS, and PROCLAMATIONS related to the pandemic disaster;” This gives away state power possessed under the 10th Amendment. We expect you to protect Texas from breaches of the 10th. The CDC, WHO and NIH have made proclamations but our businesses are not under their authority except if this bill is passed. You must never put anyone in our state under the direct rule of national and international organizations. This language would put our businesses at risk of being sued for something that cannot actually be proved. What business would even open?

8. Sections 418A.103 and 418A.104 give power to make law to the Department of State Health Services (their orders, declarations, or proclamations, are given power to void and supersede local laws,) and to the secretary of state to override election law by issuing approval for altered voting standards, practices or procedures. None are elected or given any power in the Constitution to make law in Texas except by passage of this bill.

Please stop HB3. YOU are our lawmakers and we do not wish you to give away this power.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindi Castilla

Chelsea Stevens

Self

North Richland Hills, TX

We want LESS control, LESS requirements, and LESS governments dictating our lives. Why would we vote yes to allow governors more control, when last year was an obvious fail. As a small business owner, who is now having to shut down, when you strip the people of their rights, follow along with “mandates” to incite fear, you take away the American dream, the freedom of choice, and democracy as a whole.

Lindsie Kole

Self

Canton, TX

I strongly oppose HB3. This bill gives the executive too much power and authority to legislate. Decisions made under this bill belong to the body of our state congress and not the governor. Also, the language concerning adopting all federal recommendations as law is a slippery slope and strips our state legislature’s power, and thus the citizens power to self govern. The liability protections are very dangerous, for both my for personal freedom and for all businesses. There should Be no

limitations on liability protection and adding these stipulation is unconstitutional. It puts a tremendous burden on businesses to comply with often arbitrary edicts from the federal level. This is TERRIBLE for Texas and all the individuals who call this state home.

Misty Sotello

self

Frisco, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. All of the provisions in this bill violate the tenets of personal freedom, medical freedom, and religious liberty - all that Texas was once known for. Please vote no on HB 3.

Wanda Maynard

Individual

Aubrey, TX

So no to HB3

Katie Bug

self, friends, family; Constitutional Rights Summit, UnSilent Majority Podcast; activist, entrepreneur, independent journalist, mother.

Round Rock, TX

I am a 6th generation Texan with a deep love for this state's history of spearheading the fight for freedom. As such, I do not support HB 3. Three days shy of one year, the office of Governor was abused. It was usurped by the mind of a dictator. Now, at Governor Abbott's destructive hand, this great Republic has become a socialist, communistic society where people think it is acceptable to treat others who look and behave differently without dignity, honor, or respect. Where we once cherished and valued differences that made our state beautiful, anything less than the approved narrative has been maligned and presumed the enemy. People are no longer encouraged to embrace their God-given rights to free speech or religion, and everyone is guilty until proven innocent and WITHOUT JUST CAUSE. People have been asked to abuse and neglect loved ones especially the most vulnerable in society: our children, the disabled, the elderly. July 3, people were required to act as criminals by concealing identity and restrict their access to fresh air. IS THERE AN INALIENABLE RIGHT TO LIFE SO VITAL AS FRESH AIR? HB 3 would seek to keep this usurper enthroned indefinitely and asks Congress to give up its power as author of Law in this land. Do you think that a man or woman with the power to enact measures that carry the weight of law, who can suspend current law in order to execute his or her agenda, and for an indefinite amount of time would ever willingly give up such power? This bill is tantamount to treason, - to insurrection no less as it is WE THE PEOPLE who are your masters and not now nor ever will it be the Governor. Anyone who would vote for or promote such a bill should be arrested and tried for treason against the state of Texas and the United States of America. Congressmen who would give up their power vested to them by the Constitution, to the executive branch, might also inquire into a mental evaluation. Why would any sane person give up their power? And, how can you require business owners and its employees to enforce measures that they did not vote for nor sign up to execute? How can you threaten to only offer immunity to those who comply in totality to the edicts of a dictator? Do you want to have medical procedures forced upon you, against your will as a prerequisite to accessing basic needs? Suppose an extreme potential reality where there is an AIDS epidemic again. The measures now include castration and penectomy in order to stop the spread, OR, wear a jockstrap to let all know you are "dirty." You must acquiesce or you cannot attend church, get groceries, or hold a job. You could face jail, fines, the death penalty. All would be powerless to stop this insanity except via revolt. On behalf of myself and many who have shared personal horror stories of intimidation, discrimination, assaults, illegal arrests, and frankly persecution because of the environment created by a tyrant's policies, I urge you to prevent such a nightmare and KILL HB 3.

Shannon Hodges, Waco

Self

Waco, TX

House of representatives,

As an American registered voter and a tax payer in your district, I vehemently oppose HB3. I am officially requesting that you use the power and influence bestowed upon you to not only vote no on HB3, but to raise awareness of the atrocities within the bill. Texas is a leader among the states and I am counting on you to be a leader for the people of Texas.

Thank you,

Shannon Hodges

Britney murphy, Mrs

Self

Royse City, TX

Covid has already been proven not to be a pandemic, it has over 99% survival rate and numbers are going down even more. There is no reason to pass a law that our governor would have rights and say over everything we do. As Americans We vote to have our voices heard by those that we put an office not to be told what to do by them. They are supposed to work for the American people not for the government to control us.

Jennifer Medaris

Self

Eules, TX

This bill is not for Texas. Texans do not want this level of overreach. Vote NO on HB 3!! We need to get back to what this country was founded on, freedom. This bill is another violation of our God given rights and it's time we put a stop to our rights being taken away, one by one. And all of this over a virus that isn't anything close to a pandemic? Please, vote NO.

Angela Peltier

Self

Colleyville, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Anna Lien

Self, art instructor

Midland, TX

DO NOT PASS THIS BILL. This is a grotesque violation all many of our rights as Americans, and as humans. This places many people in danger for their health, as well as placing them at odds with their beliefs. Do not pass this bill.

Patricia Maurer

My household

Keller, TX

Please vote NO

Robert Maurer

Texas resident

Keller, TX

Vote No

Aysha White

Self/housewife

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose HB 3. This bill alarms me for several reasons. First, as a mom, I am extremely concerned for the emotional well being of the children of Texas and I believe lockdowns and wearing of face masks absolutely destroys their sense of self and the way they would be required to see the world and their friends. They are told that suddenly everyone is a potential danger to them. Too many child and teen suicides have occurred unnecessarily because of the isolation mandated this past year. Too many children and teens are on medicine for depression that could have been avoided. Second, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Thirdly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Fourthly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Kristen Schneider

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power

between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Donette Trimble, Mrs

Family

Whitney, TX

We Texans DO NOT agree with this bill. You are ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES vote no please thank you.

Kelsey Kellas, House of Stark

Self

Cedar park, TX

Please vote NO!! This law gives TOO much power unchecked. If this type of power falls into the wrong hands, it could be horrible for Texans!!

Blake Trimble

Family

Whitney, TX

Please vote no on HB3.
It is not the job of the Government to dictate health issues.

Sandra Lancaster

Self

Flower Mound, TX

I am opposed to the bill as it is unconstitutional and would infringe on the rights and personal liberties of Texas residents. It is imperative that this bill be rejected on that basis at a minimum.

Thank you for your consideration of the opinions and needs of the Texas residents you represent and VOTE NO on this bill!!

Jan Gorla

Self

Frisco, TX

I am against this bill because a governor does not need to rule over the people. He needs to inform the people so we can take care of ourselves and not be mandated for anything but our own free will. I realize there are a lot of people that make poor decisions but that has always been. We've survived many pandemics, flus and new diseases using our own judgement etc. Health issues should not be a political game. NO to HB 3. NO to Government overreach.

William Hussey, Retired

Self

Llano, TX

No on this Bill, legislative oversight of office of governor is critical for all Texans

Tom Nobis

self - retired

Houston, TX

Honorable Chairman Paddie

Honorable members of the House State Affairs committee

I am Tom Nobis. I am a member of the State Republican Executive Committee from Senate District 7 in Harris County representing myself.

House Bill 3 as filed should be left pending in committee. It is Executive Overreach on steroids. We have suffered through a year of Executive Orders being extended time after time.

In this past year, my Father-in-Law passed away. My wife did not get to visit her father except electronically when the Priest gave him his last rights. She has yet to touch her mother in this past year.

Republican Party of Texas chairman Allen West felt the pain of the people of Texas and offered his priority that we accepted – Executive Overreach:

We are a free society. One person should not take away those rights without review or consequences.

Our representatives are elected by us and were sent to Austin to represent the needs of their constituents. They should have been doing this all along through this past year and into the future but the Governor never called them to speak for us.

There have been several bills filed to rectify this situation they are just not present in this bill many of which have been assigned to this committee.

- HB311 by Representative Vasut – Must be renewed by the Legislature after 30 days.
- HB1557 by Representative Martinez Fischer requires the Governor to convene a special session after 30 days.
- HJR42 by Representative Toth limits executive order to 30 days unless a special session is called
- HJR47 by Representative Krause limits emergency to 30 days and renewed only if a special session is called.

Additionally, there are several bills that address specific issues not present in this bill.

- HB905 by Representatives Krause and Cain – Compensation of certain public officials who restrict or prohibit regular business operations under a declaration of disaster. If government officials are going to inflict pain on others closing business that may never come back and eliminating one's livelihood, the officials should also feel the pain.
- HB899 Representative Middleton – Prohibiting licensing authority from taking disciplinary action against certain license holders for violating an emergency management plan or a rule, order, or ordinance issued under the plan.
- HB525 Representative Shaheen – Religious Organizations are essential
- HB1239 Representative Sanford along with HB1487 by Rep. Dean & HB1691 by Rep. Tinderholt– Prohibit suspension of laws protecting religious freedom and prohibit closure of places of worship
- HJR33 Representative Swanson – Protects an individual's right to earn a living free from unnecessary governmental interference.

We each make choices in our daily lives. God gave us the freedom to make these choices. We make these choices in the best interest of our families and ourselves. We pray about our choices and we hope that no harm is inflicted.

SD7 SREC Committeeman

Amanda Ames, Professor

Self

McKinney, TX

Good morning—As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. This is more disastrous than the disaster itself. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. How can anyone even consider something this invasive? Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

This is a terrible piece of legislation for Texans and your constituents do NOT want it.

We will remember how you vote.

A governor does NOT need this level of control over the citizens. Ever.

Please vote no on HB 3.

Danielle Converse

Personal

Portland, TX

Vote NO!!!!

Michael Converse

Personal

Portland, TX

OPPOSE!

Ben Brown

Self- Retired

Fairview, TX

The revised changes to HB 3 miss the mark. The whole Legislature should provide the oversight of the governor. The bill should allow the Governor to make a disaster declaration for a period of time and give the power to the whole legislature to end and challenge the disaster declaration, if necessary. This ,keeps the separation of powers and provides the necessary checks on the Governor's power. It would also allow the Legislature to be in session to address disaster related issues as needed.

HB 3 requires further modifications.

MARK PUNZO

MYSELF, FAMILY, MANY OTHERS, TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST!!

LUBBOCK, TX

Definition of Pandemic Substantially Altered: THIS NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED!! W.H.O. ALTERED IT, AND IT'S BEEN CONFIRMED, BY THEIR PUBLIC DEALING WITH THE CHINESE COMMUNIST, THAT THEY ARE "AGENTS" OF THE CCP. THE DEFINITION OF "PANDEMIC" IS THE "HINGE-PIN" FOR THIS WHOLE CONCEPT.

The WHO's original definition of a pandemic was:9,10

"... when a new influenza virus appears against which the human population has no immunity, resulting in several, simultaneous epidemics worldwide with enormous numbers of deaths and illness."

The key portion of that definition is "enormous numbers of deaths and illness." This definition was changed in the month leading up to the 2009 swine flu pandemic. The change was a simple but substantial one: They merely removed the severity and high mortality criteria, leaving the definition of a pandemic as "a worldwide epidemic of a disease."11

This switch in definition allowed the WHO to declare swine flu a pandemic after a mere 144 people had died from the infection, worldwide, and it's why COVID-19 is still promoted as a pandemic even though it has caused no excess mortality in nine months.12,13,14

We now have plenty of data showing the lethality of COVID-19 is on par with the seasonal flu.15,16,17,18,19 It may be different in terms of symptoms and complications, but the actual lethality is about the same. The absolute risk of death is equivalent to the risk of dying in a car accident.20,21

By removing the criteria of severe illness causing high morbidity, leaving geographically widespread infection as the only criteria for a pandemic, the WHO and technocratic leaders of the world were able to bamboozle the global population into giving up our lives and livelihoods.

Mallory Villafuerte

self/mom

tyler, TX

Please Vote No to Bill HB 3. This bill is not in the best interest of Texas citizens.

Tamara Lanham

Self and Husband

Bedford, TX

Our entire life was effected by the lockdowns. My husband lost his 20 year plus career in managing teams who sold IT conference seats. The Governor should not be allowed to make laws or mandates as that is not his right but legislations. I can see him having a right for a mandate for a week or two till the legislators can be called in to meet and discuss what the appropriate response should be. We do not want a King or Queen ruling us. This has been an economic hardship on my family and a ton of stress that nearly put my husband in the ground unable to support his family of five. As his blood pressure went through the roof.

We need checks and balances and this bill removes them! I vote NO and beg you to do as well!

Catharine Layton

self

Austin, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, and someone who left the state of California because of the passage of a similar law, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Charlie Edmonson

self

Bryson, TX

The powers of the Governor should be limited. This bill doesn't do that. Provide legislative oversight in this bill and have it subject to judicial review. This bill provides no new protection to places of worship. It doesn't protect businesses against unlawful mandates. It is a bad bill overall. DONT PASS THIS BILL!

Patricia Ducayet, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Office of the State Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

Austin, TX

The purpose of the LTC Ombudsman Program is to protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of people living in nursing (NFs) and assisted living facilities (ALFs).

HB 3 applies to businesses that include LTC facilities that are licensed and regulated by HHSC to deliver long-term care to older adults and adults with disabilities.

Almost all NFs in Texas accept Medicaid and Medicare payments to operate the businesses. About 10 percent of residents of ALFs pay for their care with a Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver. Regardless of Medicaid-eligibility, essentially all LTC residents pay for their care with Social Security benefits, Veterans Administration benefits, pension income, or a combination of these.

I have concerns about Section 418A.007, which waives civil liability for all businesses during a pandemic disaster. This section would waive liability of all the facilities that are responsible for the proper care and treatment of LTC residents.

Applied to a care facility, the bill shields them from responsibility for the harm alleged by a person and the damages suffered, based on the harm that was inflicted having occurred during a pandemic disaster. I am concerned this limits options for a resident who sustains an injury while living in a facility and the resident's right to pursue a remedy through the legal system. The terms "willful, reckless, or grossly negligent," though not defined in the bill, appear to require a person who files a lawsuit to meet a higher burden. Because visitors, most of whom are family members of residents, were not allowed to visit their loved one in a

facility for many months and currently have very limited opportunities and times to visit, meeting these standards seems impossible. Residents who receive care in a regulated facility should have the option to file a lawsuit and not be subject to additional burdens to do so.

I am also concerned that Section 418A.007 protects businesses from liability but does not protect individuals other than officers and employees of a state or local agency. I would support the concept of protecting individual healthcare staff from personal liability during a pandemic emergency but protecting business interests could hurt individuals that suffered harm by business decisions, including a business's policies and practices applied to its employees. This seems to contradict the purpose stated in the bill in Section 418A.002, to "(1) reduce the vulnerability of residents and communities in this state to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from a pandemic disaster".

Finally, I am uncertain whether the liability waiver in Section 418A.007 may apply more broadly to the enforcement actions of the State's regulatory functions. If it could apply to the State's regulatory functions, I oppose such a proposal because it would endanger the lives of all residents.

I request that the committee exclude LTC facilities from Section 418A.007.

Caleb Pillado Leon

Self

Katy, TX

I strongly disagree with HR 3 that takes away Texans' ability to make a living especially business owners. Without proper compensation no business should be forced to be shut. We witnessed a stylist jailed for the crime of providing food for her family by opening her business. This did not happen in North Korea, China, or Iran; it was done by a Texas judge using the governor's mandate. We are witnessing the city of Austin abuse power the city should not have by mandating masks even after the governor rescinded the mandate. The focus should be limiting the power of the governor. If any changes are needed it should be cutting down on state employees' salaries and benefits during an emergency declaration. Some State employees should go on unemployment like many of us did. We are all essential, our businesses are essential, providing food for our families is essential to every Texan. Please defeat this bill and get the governor's power in check.

Cathy Jaster

retired

Georgetown, TX

I am vehemently opposed to HB 3. The gross misuse of the Governor's emergency power points out the need to secure our liberties from this overreach ever happening again. Deciding who is essential or not, spending millions of dollars without the consent of the legislature or Texans on a contact tracing contract, closing down businesses and schools causing harm to children and adults, forcing or coercing the wearing of masks and social distancing, forced COVID testings, is NOT a power given to government, and certainly not a Governor. These mandates seemed more to force submission and obedience than actually prevent the spread of COVID.

The PCR test was not to be used for detecting COVID and was known to create lots of false results, which were devastating to families. The creation of a "probable COVID case" was a tactic used to increase the COVID case count to create fear and further a political agenda, as is the national COVID death count. The COVID survival rate is ~98.7 %. And as we've seen in the 1.9 trillion bill passed for COVID, only 9% addressed COVID issues.

Taking away one's right to make their own health decisions and forcing health decisions on individuals is certainly Unconstitutional and immoral. And my health decisions can not be decided by someone else's fear.

HB 3 will take away more of our GOD (not govt) given rights. The Governor and legislature need to be reminded that they work for The People, that is how our country was founded. Do not pass this bill.

Mystee Tibbs

Self

Conroe, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Gila Timberlake

Self

Austin, TX

No! No! No! For the sake of our children and our nation. No!

Ray Morwood

Self - Retired

N. Zulch, TX

No mans freedom and treasure is safe when the legislature is in session.

Abbott bastardized the 1975 law to declare one man rule in Texas. HB 3 gives any governor near unlimited power to lock our state down. The legislature should be placing strict limits on emergency powers but instead they are attempting to expand his power.

This bill is absolute lunacy better suited to Cuomo, Newsom, and Whitmer.

What the hell has happened to the Texas Republican Party?

Jennifer Lee

Self

Midlothian, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. I believe it grants way too much power to the governor. These decisions should be left up to our legislative representatives.

Abigail Hanna

Self

McAllen, TX

Sample comment from TFVC. They urge you to change it but you don't have to.

Good morning, As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. PLEASE VOTE NO TO HB 3.

Patrick Layton, Mr.

Informed Consent Action Network

Austin, TX

I am a proud Texan who strongly opposes HB 3. I am gravely concerned about several critical shortcomings in this bill. In an American government, balance of power, our system of checks and balances, must be maintained. It is vital to our republic, and to maintain the inalienable rights of its stakeholders, the people. Any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain this crucial balance of power between branches of the government. Our founding fathers did not say, 'Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, unless there's an outbreak.' Freedom must be strictly maintained, and allowing centralization of powers to a single seat exposes texans to draconian 'rule' in the name of 'public health,' whether driven by data or not. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals, at the governors whim. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being compelled by force to require medical testing, unproven treatment, intrusive contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Most offensive to the freedom of Texans, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals, punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 per offense, for violation of any emergency management plan, whether guided by science, or overblown models. This bill allows a single individual in government to effectively implement a police state, bypassing our constitutional rights, and forcing individuals to comply with draconian measures such as medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance, under the guise of a public emergency whether actual or perceived. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. It is extremely concerning to this resident, that such a bill has even been written. This represents the kind of governing countless people around the worlds have fled to America to escape. To read this bill, which would so quickly subvert the rights of the people, granted by our creator, knowing it was written by American public servants, makes me gravely concerned for the future of this, the greatest state in the greatest country on earth. To you, our public servants, I implore you: Do not forget the generations of blood and sacrifice it took to secure our freedom. We as citizens, coming off the heels of the single greatest power grab in US History in the name of 'Public Health', are very aware of how quickly freedom can be lost. Please vote no on HB 3.

Jeannie Bergland

Self

Temple, TX

I'm sure that this bill was drafted by well meaning politicians; however, this bill is undermining the will of the people by denying

their freedom of choice and may lead to dictatorship. We have a Governor right now who cares about all Texans; but, what about the next one? Please oppose this HB 3. Thank you.

Carli Chapman, Texan

Self, Client Advocacy and Excellence

Richardson, TX

Good morning.

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Government powers regardless of the situation need to remain limited. As we have seen over the previous year in multiple states, leaders have overstepped, over controlled and lost trust with constituents. Our rights do not change based on environmental circumstances and I urge you to protect our rights for the future. Please vote no on HB 3.

Samuel Orlando

Self

Damon, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings:

First, any pandemic response beyond 30 days should be voted on by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Maybe Gov Abbott will do the right thing, but what if we get someone like California that takes dictatorial authority. TEXAS DOES NOT NEED THIS.

Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protection for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers.

Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB 3

Thank you

Brian Bodine

Texas Freedom Coalition

Dallas, TX

I am looking to speak against this bill in under 2 minutes today, with verbal spoken testimony.

JEROME YOUNG

SELF

THE WOODLANDS, TX

HB 3 IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND DANGEROUS LEGISLATION. WE NEED TO LIMIT THE GOVERNORS OILGARCHIAL POWERS NOT CODIFY THEM. WE HAVE CHECKS AND BALANCES FOR A REASON THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD HAVE OVERSIGHT ON THE CURRENTLY UNCHECKED EMERGENCY POWER OF THE GOVERNOR. IT WOULD BE ONE THING IF OUR LEGISLAATORS COULD ACTUALLY COMMUNICATE WITH THE GOVERNOR IN THESE SITUATIONS BUT BOTH MY STATE REP AND SENATOR STATED THAT NO ONE COULD GET A MEETING WITH KING ABBOTT DURING THIS YEAR LONG"EMERGENCY" THIS BILL NEEDS TO BE READ, DUMPED AND NEVER MAKE IT AOUT OF COMMITTEE. SUPPORT FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMMENDMENT TO SEE THIS NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN IS OVERWHELMING SUPPORTED BY YOUR EMPLOYERS. WE THE PEOPLE. SUPPORT AND PASS HJR42

Catherine Madurski, Mrs

Self. Retired Registered Respiratory Therapist

Helotes, TX

I am a concerned citizen of Texas. I urge all of you who are voting on this bill to vote NO!!! There are so many shortcomings in this bill. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by our legislature in order to maintain a balance of power between the branches of government. HB3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and to continually renew it at 30 day intervals. Secondly, even though HB3 purports to provide protection for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it puts conditions on those legal protections. Based on complying with all applicable pandemic related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what could be required of businesses. Businesses could be effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, customers or vendors. Thirdly, HB3 creates a criminal offense for individuals which is punishable by a fine up of \$1000.00 for each violation of ANY emergency management plan. This means this bill could similarly effectively force Individuals to comply with medical testing, contract tracing, treatment, interventions and other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for Non-Compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of Medical Freedom, Informed Consent and Religious Liberty.

Please vote No on HB 3.

Lisa House

Self - mom

Burleson, TX

I oppose HB 3. Our leaders are meant to represent us, not rule us. This last year has taught us that we the people need to reign in the power of our governors, not give them more power.

Monica Nicole

Self

Crockett, TX

I've reviewed HB 3. I spoke to some local officials asking if was was understanding this bill correctly. They all agreed I had interpreted it right. I am against this bill for the fact it will allow illegal mandates (similar to ones we just endured) to be law. It will also give judges and mayors more power. Also, with allowing governors to stop any current laws is not ok. I am against anything that takes the rights and freedoms from "We the People". This is America, and better yet Texas! I am disappointed that Abbott allowed such ridiculous restrictions surrounding covid. The restrictions effected my family in numerous ways. My children are young and were very fearful and confused with all the mask. If I were supposed to wear one my youngest would cry and rip it off me. Which wearing one was difficult to me and caused anxiety and breathing trouble.

Christy Rubin

Self

Prosper, TX

No to HR3!

Bethany Jezik

self

Austin, TX

First of all this is America. Second this pandemic is a fraud, a behavior done by Communists. Now we are about to see who in the Texas Congressional seats who are loyal communists and who are representatives of the People. You are about to vote on unconstitutional policies (they are not law because they are against the Constitution, illegally drafted and forced onto the People for the profit of those bribed criminals who are in seats of power and under the Oath of the that office under the Constitution.

I DEMAND YOU TO END THIS FRAUD AND DECLINE FROM THESE COMMUNIST AND CRIMINAL LEGISLATIVE OVERSTEPPING OF YOUR DUTY.

Those of you who vote to take the People's rights away by supporting false pandemics, forcing people to wear masks that are more deadly than this fake virus, close businesses, restricting social gatherings, ordering by violence that no one can see their family/friends in assisted living quarters, to deem me as NON ESSENTIAL, and to force a deadly and destructive vaccine onto the People against their will. have a good chance to find yourselves charged with TREASON.

The representatives who vote for this WILL be accountable for criminal actions. There are many indictments that are sealed, over a hundred thousand, and there is good chance by your past voting you may have one. Those indictments charge anyone who violates the freedom of the people and the choices we enjoy with TREASON. I do not need to tell you the punishment that brings with it. This Bill should not even be considered, as it is a total fraud and a total criminal act.

The playbook of the communists we've been seeing lately. Weather modified cold spell that was deliberately done to harm Texans. Now the government is demanding farmers to kill their cattle, chickens, pigs, and plow under vegetables. You've forced healthy people to wear masks and made small businesses suffer because you went along with a lie.

You all must think we are stupid or something. What we are witnessing is exactly what was done in the Bolshevik Revolution and in all other nations where this sort of criminality and satanic behavior has created suffering on humanity. Communists are the ones who align with the platform of force and violence. We the People see clearly the fraud in voting, the bribes you take, the lies you tell and soon, this vote will seal your fate.

I'm not threatening you. I know people in higher positions are watching you, and you WILL be held ACCOUNTABLE to the LAW and OATH you took.

Have you been bribed? Have you been involved with trafficking drugs or humans? Don't think we are stupid.

I DEMAND YOU VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL TO GIVE COMMUNISTS THE REIGNS OF THIS GREAT STATE.

We the People will rise again, and hopefully we can be with honorable legislators who know their duty to the people. The PEOPLE ARE YOUR BOSS NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND... remember that as that will be the bottom line of you committing treason or being a true patriot.

Virginia Young
self / health educator
The Woodlands, TX

During the pandemic I witnessed unnecessary atrocities daily. Sick, disabled and dying individuals were not allowed to have a family member with them in the hospital. Caregivers were excluded from major decision making processes. Vital surgeries for life-threatening conditions such as ectopic pregnancies were deemed “nonessential”. Elderly and disabled in nursing homes were held captive. In one instance I know of a wheelchair-bound woman who was tested with a swab barely touching the inside of her nose, called positive for the virus, and wheeled into her room and left. All residents in this facility were left in their rooms with a sign and chair outside their doors. That woman spent the night in her wheelchair, was not taken to the bathroom, did not get food or drink. Thankfully, she had a persistent family member. Seasoned veterans in medicine looked elsewhere to work when their hospitals were left practically nonfunctioning. The loss of jobs, businesses and lives were all unnecessary. I could write a book about this disaster, and I am sure there will be many written in the months ahead. Never again should any one person or group of people be allowed to rule over our state and our people. Thankfully, Texans are resilient and persevere, and we will not stand for such behavior from those who have sworn to “preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State, so help me God”.

teresa touchstone
Self
Victoria, TX

This is GOVERNMENT OVERREACH ON A GRAND SCALE!

Douglas Sanders
Self- Former Chair of the Llano County Republican Party
Horseshoe Bay, TX

The Governor should never be granted the type of power that Governor Abbott exercised during last year. His unilateral executive mandates devastated millions of Texans and allowed local elected officials to also assert unlimited oppression on citizens. This executive abuse will forever be a horrible stain in this State’s purported support of individual rights. Rather than authorizing such executive power, the Legislature should forbid it. If restrictions are needed, the Legislature as the people’s representative should be the body to enact such restrictions, after due consultation with the People.

Tanya Robertson
Self
Taylor Lake Village, TX

I am adamantly opposed to this bill for many reasons listed below:

- 1) As a practicing Republican, I am opposed to creating another layer of government especially when we elect our senators & representatives to actually do the job described for this proposed 'committee'.
- 2) This bill completely subverts the authority of our elected representatives who were elected by voters in their districts to represent Texans. Creating a 'committee' would take that representation away.
- 3) It's currently unconstitutional for our President to create laws just as it's currently unconstitutional for our governor to create laws. We have a republican form of government as outlined in our TX Constitution & we should strive to preserve this at all costs.

There is no need for this bill. The solution would be a constitutional amendment to the TX Disaster Act that would mandate a time certain trigger to call our legislators into a special session under certain disaster or pandemic situations.

Julie Kellogg

self/ self employed

Corpus Christi, TX

I support this bill because it will make it illegal to inflict government overreach during a pandemic or epidemic. Those terms are subjective, and abuse by government to shut down of our constitutional rights should never be tolerated for any reason. Government is by the consent of the governed.

Jessica Carrasco, Dr.

Self

Athens, TX

I am strongly opposed to the government or any other entity taking away our sovereign right to decide for any reason what medical treatments may be enforced or mandated on us. This includes masks but also certainly includes vaccinations.

This allows the government to declare an emergency, whether one truly exists or not, then decide what actions are to be criminal, and to enforce medical actions on the people, which may or may not be in their best interest. Further to be able to open business should be up to business owners and people.

It is clear this is wrong and should not be done in a free nation. Provide information and allow for informed decision making. Perhaps incentive or assistance could be provided for those who choose to assist their lifestyle and follow quarantine, but it must not be forced.

Phillip Brown

Self, Retired

Georgetown, TX

We oppose HB3 in its entirety. It is nothing but a raw power play for unlimited executive power in Texas. We MUST go the opposite direction. LIMIT the governor's emergency powers in every way. No more mandates, masks otherwise. No more lockdowns, shutdowns, or "essential" business lists. No more power for county executives to do these things, either. No more restrictions on religion -- of any kind at all, EVER, in accordance with our Texas Bill of Rights. No more restrictions on travel. No more stay-home orders. No more mask orders. No more limits on public gatherings. Ever. Not now, not ever. Only the Legislature can make law. The governor CAN NOT have unilateral, unchecked, authoritarian power to make laws, set penalties, and decide on violations and punishments, in a pandemic or any other emergency. He CAN NOT issue "orders" with the force of law: he is not a legislator!

Lisa Gonzalez

Self

North Richland Hills, TX

I vote No to HB 3 this bill that makes into LAW everything the governor has done this past year - this is against our constitution and takes away our right to choose. Thank you!!

Chris Breaux, State Republican Executive Committeeman

Republican Party of Texas

Beaumont, TX

I vigorously oppose HB 3. It reiterates and codifies the executive overreach of the governor and county judges. This is unacceptable.

ALL laws must originate in the legislature. The people of Texas have loaned their power to create law to the legislature only. The legislature cannot then delegate that authority to any other entity. We did not loan them the authority to loan our authority!

This bill must be defeated. Texas will take note of every member that votes in favor of HB 3, and primary challengers will use it in political ads next campaign.

Brittany Edmunds

Self

Dallas, TX

I am not in favor of this bill for the following reasons:

The severity of this virus has been played up beyond legitimate levels. Many employees in hospitals around the United States have attested that the numbers of deaths due to Covid 19 have been muddled and corrupted by medical "professionals" who have either forcibly or voluntarily falsely reported deaths as c19 deaths that were NOT caused by the virus, but by other illness or injury. Since we have no idea what the actual numbers are (logically, one can assume it is much less than is being reported) the need for this bill is at best unknown. Why throw people into further restrictive states when it is most likely unnecessary?

Even if this bill is necessary, why is there no allowance for a gathering during a "pandemic emergency" to conclude the implementing of this bill when the time comes to end it?

Why must personal property be seized? What property would fall under that category of necessary seizure? Are there no clarifications or guidelines as to what and why?

This bill is being put forth in a manner that is harmful to society's current situation. Instead of spending time and energy on further restricting free Americans and their rights, I propose that brain power and our taxpayer monies be put into scrutinizing the reports being given on C19 statistics. Find out who is forcing corruption of said reports and penalize them for causing superfluous panic in the general public. The truth needs to be sussed out.

I hope all involved choose wisely and act with integrity.

Thank you

Jennifer Kratky

Self, mother and 6th generation Texan

Magnolia, TX

As a representative to the Republican Party of Texas state convention, I implore the House members to vote NO on HB3. I do not want to give the Governor more power to wage tyranny over the citizens of Texas. Instead, please create bills to mirror SJR45 and SB1025. Keep the power in the hands of the representatives of We the People, where we at least have a fighting chance of some method of citizen input.

Angela Jones

Self

Big Sandy, TX

I strongly oppose this bill as it gives too much authority to the governor as it is written. The bill does not balance or clarify boundaries to protect the citizens from overreaching authorities. We have clearly witnessed such overreach during covid.

Kathy Williams

Self.

Austin, TX

This bill should be killed. It is a Trojan Horse for a lot of Republican wish list items. As a former, chair and board member of a faith-based long-term disaster recovery organization, I see little that advances the need to prevent, respond to or recover from pandemic disasters. What it appears to be is that the author(s) under the guise of protecting the public, are codifying (1) suppression of voting by disadvantaged groups, (2) granting increased state powers, both executive and legislative, over local governments (whose emergency response plans have already been approved by the state) and innovative ideas that come from the local elected officials(3) intensifying a fight between the Legislature and the governor, 4.) advances a Republican partisan agenda. It was so hastily conceived that the public and some members of the State Affairs Committee did not even have a correct copy of the bill soon enough to make intelligent comment on the bill. It is so ill-conceived that two major parts of the bill were removed after it was filed. The original bill stipulated that the Legislature could override the governor's declaration. That provision was replaced by a 10-member board. Both alternatives are almost certainly unconstitutional. The answer from the author today was that's what courts are for. That's like a carpenter doing a sloppy job and say the painters can fix it. With the millions of tax dollars we would spend on lawsuits, we could direct toward partnerships with helping agencies to help the millions of Texans who are going to suffer from this Pandemic for years. This bill protects businesses and corporations, but not people. It is short-sighted in a consumer economy to think you can protect businesses from liability at the expense of your workers and customers safe and healthy. Even if this requires a special session, please invest time, in consultation with public, private, academic and government health care and disaster response and recovery experts to develop a high-quality, people-focused disaster plan. This should not be a political hot potato. This should be an improvement over our response to all other disasters and that requires thought and reason. A well-crafted policy could serve as a new and better plan for other types of disasters. This bill makes me sad and angry. Sad, because it wastes an opportunity to act as government at its best; angry, because it exploits the biggest disaster in terms of human suffering and death in Texas history to advance political and commercial motives.

Debbie Punzo

Self- retired

Lubbock, TX

I want to go on record that I am against HB3. After the year we have had, this is not the time for any action that leaves anything to interpretation. Most actions in politics these days have to do with money and greed, which leads to manipulation and control. A bill should be passed that is clear cut and leaves nothing open to interpretation. The very idea of declaring a pandemic by the

governor, CDC, NHI or W.H.O. allows the decision to a whim. This current virus, with a 99% recovery rate, is more of a virus than a pandemic. Shutting down businesses, schools, parks and recreation, even family gatherings is a ludicrous plan and should never be allowed. I do not see safeguards in this bill, but rather it gives the governor free reign. Please do not pass this bill.

Annelise Saint-Vincent

self

New Braunfels, TX

Hello – As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill contains several things that are of real concern. First, appropriate balance of power should always be maintained during any pandemic response beyond a short duration before action should be considered and enacted by the legislature. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Second point, although HB 3 apparently provides protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic,. However, the conditions of those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government don't provide any limits on what can be required of businesses. Ultimately, this could result in businesses being forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. This is an overreach of power. One final issue is HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals for non-compliance. Individuals are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty and is an infringement on an individual's Constitutionally protected rights. Please vote no on HB 3.

natalie torres, mrs

self

houston, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Travis mcqueen, Mr

self

lake.jackson, TX

It seems clear to me that this bill would give dictatorial Powers. Our liberties should never be limited by government. I can assure you as the sky is blue that the founding fathers of Texas would have a fit at this bill if they were here today. How can out state reps take an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the state of Texas and then consider a unconstitutional bill ? please explain yourself sir

Rebecca Meals

Self, homemaker and small business owner

Whitesboro, TX

This bill does not limit executive power, nor does it call the legislature into session to serve as a check on executive power. As a constituent and small business owner, the fact that the governor was allowed to shut down businesses and put people out of work is egregious. People weren't allowed to have funeral, baptize their children, or visit their loved ones in nursing homes. I do not see a remedy for this power in this bill. There are a lot of reasons to oppose this bill, including forcing people to make a medical decision (masking; and let's not pretend there are no risks to that or that there aren't people who can't wear them). We should not be shutting down our economy and limiting the freedom of our citizens over a virus. The remedy for a governor who makes these edicts is the voice of the people, which exists within the legislature, who are the people we elected to be our voice. We had no voice for over a year. This must not be allowed to persist. This bill codifies what the governor did during the past year. It does not limit this power. I urge you to vote no on HB3.

Karla Balluch

A concerned texan

Wills point, TX

Vote no to this bill , we the people do not want the government/governor to have the power we the people want the power!

Tony McDonald

Self - Attorney

Austin, TX

I decided to go through the Texas constitution and identify the parts this bill (the HB 3 substitute) violates.

Art I. Sec. 2. INHERENT POLITICAL POWER; REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT. " The faith of the people of Texas stands pledged to the preservation of a republican form of government . . . "

Art I. Sec. 9. SEARCHES AND SEIZURES. "The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers and possessions, from all unreasonable seizures . . . "

Art I. Sec. 16. BILLS OF ATTAINDER; EX POST FACTO OR RETROACTIVE LAWS; IMPAIRING OBLIGATION OF CONTRACTS. "No . . . retroactive law . . . shall be made."

Art I. Sec. 19. DEPRIVATION OF LIFE, LIBERTY, PROPERTY, ETC. BY DUE COURSE OF LAW. "No citizen of this State shall be deprived of . . . liberty, property, privileges or immunities, or in any manner disfranchised, except by the due course of the law of the land."

Art I. Sec. 27. RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY; PETITION FOR REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. "The citizens shall have the right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good . . . "

Art I. Sec. 28. SUSPENSION OF LAWS. "No power of suspending laws in this State shall be exercised except by the Legislature."

Art I. Sec. 29. BILL OF RIGHTS EXCEPTED FROM POWERS OF GOVERNMENT AND INVIOATE. "To guard against transgressions of the high powers herein delegated, we declare that everything in this "Bill of Rights" is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate, and all laws contrary thereto, or to the following provisions,

shall be void."

Art II. Sec. 1. SEPARATION OF POWERS OF GOVERNMENT AMONG THREE DEPARTMENTS. The powers of the Government of the State of Texas shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of which shall be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: Those which are Legislative to one; those which are Executive to another, and those which are Judicial to another; and no person, or collection of persons, being of one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly attached to either of the others, except in the instances herein expressly permitted.

Art III. Sec. 1. "SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The Legislative power of this State shall be vested in a Senate and House of Representatives . . ."

Art III. Sec. 2. MEMBERSHIP OF SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. "The Senate shall consist of thirty-one members. The House of Representatives shall consist of 150 members."

Art III. Sec. 10. QUORUM; ADJOURNMENTS FROM DAY TO DAY; COMPELLING ATTENDANCE. "Two-thirds of each House shall constitute a quorum to do business ..."

Art III. Sec. 27. ELECTIONS FOR LEGISLATORS. "Elections for Senators and Representatives shall be general throughout the State, and shall be regulated by law."

Art IV. Sec. 10. EXECUTION OF LAWS AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS WITH OTHER STATES AND UNITED STATES BY GOVERNOR. "He shall cause the laws to be faithfully executed . . ."

Lauryl Duncan

Self

Wylie, TX

I strongly OPPOSE this bill and want executive powers to be LIMITED, not codified. If a supposed conservative can abuse this power as it was over the past year, I don't want there to be the possibility of another governor doing the same or worse.

Joy Roberts

Self

Howe, TX

I strongly OPPOSE HB3. I also oppose it in all forms. There is no way this bill can be rewritten to be salvaged. It is a bad bill that will give too much power to the governor in a pandemic.

Ealina Melton

Self

Boyd, TX

The Texas people OPPOSE HB3 even in its amended format. Please VOTE NO!

Tina Keehan, Mrs

Self, stay at home mom

Forney, TX

Sadly, this bill in Sec. 418A.007(b)(2) & (3) opens businesses up to liability lawsuits for exposure to disease during a pandemic for not following every dot and tittle of every federal, state and local agency's guidance, declarations, proclamations, rules, regulations, mandate and laws related to a pandemic that they were not liable for previously. It is an individual's responsibility to care for their own health and limit exposure to anyone, anywhere if they feel they need to, that's not a business's responsibility. A business shouldn't have to follow all federal guidances and declarations to comply with this bill especially if their State is not affected by the pandemic the way other parts of the nation may be, in order to save them from a destructive lawsuit. Business owners are considerate of their community but should also have the liberty to run their business as they see fit within the current State laws.

Donald Johnson

Self/ Aircraft Mechanic

PARADISE, TX

I do not support this Bill.

Tamara Keys, Mrs

Texans4Truth

Taylor, TX

We oppose HB3 which takes away the rights and liberties of Texans and gives the Governor way too much power. This bill would allow the Governor to create a police state as we have already seen in states like California, New York and Michigan with over reach by their governors. Leaving citizens without jobs, schools and depending on the state to support them the least way they can. This also has no way to terminate the actions if we are not in session. This places way to much power in the Governor's hands and Texas wants less power, more freedom. Thank you.

Susie Tranbarger

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Hello

As a concerned Texas citizen I ask you to vote NO on HB3

Dena Sheets

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Hello - As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3. This bill has several shortcomings. First, any pandemic response beyond a short duration should be considered and enacted by the legislature to maintain an appropriate balance of power between branches of the government. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. Secondly, although HB 3 purports to provide protections for businesses against legal liability related to a pandemic, it conditions those legal protections on complying with all applicable pandemic-related laws, rules, ordinances, declarations, and proclamations at all levels of government without providing any limits on what can be required of businesses. This could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. Thirdly, HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each

violation of any emergency management plan, which means this bill could similarly effectively force individuals to comply with medical testing, treatment, contract tracing, interventions, and any other orders that any jurisdiction adopts under the coercion of punishment for non-compliance. These provisions violate the tenets of medical freedom, informed consent, and religious liberty. Please vote no on HB 3.

Craig Miller

Self - captain in the fire service

Austin, TX

I appreciate the opportunity to express my rejection of HB3. Many have been expressing their praise of the governor's response to the Covid situation. But by no means should approval of Abbott's response translate into granting this and all future governors, from any political party, more power to operate above the reach and check of the legislative branch. Founders have rested the power to make laws with you as you are more locally representative and closer to the people and our wishes. Except for in urgent acute emergencies, the legislative branch should be deciding which, if any, limitations, restrictions, or mandates should be imposed. HB3 gives too much power to future governors to create their own controls, mandates, and laws. Legislative special sessions should be automatically called up with any disaster declarations. And any emergency orders should be required to seek approval by the legislative branch to continue to exist beyond 30 days. We must have these balance of powers in order to protect our state and our Republic and protect it from any rise of tyranny. We trust your group efforts over that of any one individual. Please do not give away your powers to the executive branch. We need you all to participate more in these major life events, not less. Please decline HB3 in favor of other legislation which gives your branch more influence and say in how state emergencies are handled. Thank you for your attention and for your service!

Amber Sanders

Self

Lubbock, TX

No, this should not pass.

Sue Faulkner

Self

Tyler, TX

Please vote no. I have never contacted any representatives in my life but I feel strongly about this bill and it needs a vote of NO. Thank you for your time.

Perry Fowler

Texas Water Infrastructure Network (TXWIN)

Austin, TX

The Texas Water Infrastructure Network (TXWIN) supports HB 3.

TXWIN is a 501(C)(6) trade association based in Austin, Texas that represents and promote the interests of Texas businesses involved in Texas water construction markets.

TXWIN contractors and suppliers were deemed "essential" by CISA standards and have been active building critical water facilities during the entirety of the COVID pandemic.

We have worked with our members to ensure safe operations of their workforce and promote compliance with state, local and federal law.

We are particularly supportive of the liability provisions of this legislation.

If you have any further questions or comment I am available to discuss our experiences thus far as we all work to overcome this historic event.

Vanessa MacDougal
self (software engineer)

Austin, TX

Please remove the section prohibiting any local officials from imposing stricter health regulations than the state level during a pandemic. It is certainly possible to have a pandemic which affects different parts of the state unevenly. In fact, when Covid began, Gov. Abbott argued there was no need for a statewide mask mandate because many counties didn't even have any Covid cases. If that is the case, the counties or cities which are being hit hard need the ability to control it locally. If the governor does not want to impose statewide orders, and local officials are banned from issuing their own orders, people in locations hard-hit by a pandemic have no way of protecting themselves.

Susan Dantzler

Self

Harper, TX

HB 3 expands the a governor's power during a state disaster. This bill is the exact opposite of what is needed. Greg Abbott will not always be governor. The time could easily come when Texas has a Democrat governor. We do not need to increase power to any governor.

Sean McEachern

Texan

Rhome, TX

I absolutely oppose any bill that will turn over dictatorial power to one person regardless of the situation. there is, by no means, a justifiable reason to violate anyone's rights afforded them by our state constitution or that of the national constitution. To give one person, whether it be Governor Abbott this time, or someone else next time, only opens the door for more government overreach..... I am actually appalled that any bill like this would be presented anywhere near the state much less from a Texan. if there is any question that the door of dictatorial power can be abused, we need only to look at New Orleans during Katrina. As a native Texan, born and raised, and you, being my mouth piece in Austin, it should be heralded our opposition to this bill period.

Laura Farias

myself

Little Elm, TX

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Tara Aycock

Self

Longview, TX

Too much government and not enough personal responsibility. This bill is a disaster ?? please do not pass it. If Texas is shut down again Abbott will say it is the will of the people and he didn't do it but if you make this law you will be doing so against the people's wishes! It will not be will of the people but the will of a few.

Andrea Maniscalco, Mrs

Self

Alvin, TX

Vote NO

Sheryl Lampo, Mrs

Self homemaker

College Station, TX

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Dorothy McCann

Digital Group

Spring, TX

HB 3 DEFINED ABBOTT GIVEN PERMANENT EMERGENCY POWERS

1. HB 3 allows the governor to declare a pandemic disaster and continually renew it at 30-day intervals. ABBOTT CAN KEEP HIS EMERGENCY POWERS FOREVER.
2. HB 3 Could result in businesses being effectively forced to require medical testing, treatment, contact tracing, or interventions for their employees, vendors, or customers. ABBOTT WILL BE CONTROLLING ALL BUSINESSES.
3. HB 3 creates a criminal offense for individuals punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation of any emergency management plan. ABBOTT WILL CONTROL EACH OF US.
4. HB 3 will require business liable who do not comply with government mandates.

DID YOU NOTICE BUSINESSES CAN FORCE “treatment” BEFORE WE RECEIVE SERVICES.

HB3 CALLED TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY covered up with more money for each district, recognized teacher excellence etc, etc... I pray our Congressmen are reading the whole bill????

James McCann, JD

Digital group

Conroe, TX

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Duane Weber

Elgin, TX

If this is making it a criminal offense to make it a criminal offense for not only creating a pandemic without due diligence of criteria that far exceeds normal but also makes it a criminal offense to elongate it without strict criteria. And that criteria should not be a dictate of the CDC nor WHO who have demonstrated their corruption with the COVID which turns out to be a political hit job that not only was used as a means to remove Trump from office, a treasonous undertaking but used to destroy small businesses and the morality of church gatherings and the additional impact on education of not only public but college schooling when the impact to those groups was minimal.

Ruth York

Self

Cisco, TX

I came to the Capitol and registered to speak in opposition to this bill but had to leave before my opportunity came.

I heard some say this pandemic was the worst disaster in Texas' history. I believe it was made immeasurably worse by a government run amuck.

HB3 only perpetuates the powertripping we have experienced at every level of government for a year.

RESTRICT these powerhungry officials, not enshrine in law their trampling of our God-given, constitutionally-protected rights.

Nancy True

Texas Liberty Committee; Self

Hickory Creek, TX

I view the codification of expanded civil government authority curtailing the free exercise of "certain unalienable rights" in response to a perceived pandemic disaster as both a violation of our founding principles and unwarranted.

Within the first few weeks of the TX shutdown, I experienced symptoms unquestionably matching the SARS-CoV-2 description. I am among those reportedly deemed "especially vulnerable", both by advanced age & medical history (spontaneous pneumothorax). Using nutritional supplementation known to boost the immune system/enhance lung function, coupled with extra sleep, the symptoms eased on day 2. I'm pleased to report by end of day 3, the event was behind me, subsequently remaining asymptomatic.

With history of spontaneous pneumothorax, hindering normal breathing function with face coverings would obviously be ill-advised. Although open to the public, businesses deny entry/refuse services, having presumed authority to discriminate against those exempt from wearing a mask, posing no health threat of contagion whatsoever. Furthermore, maskless interaction with the public generally considered unacceptable, my income was negatively impacted without legitimacy.

My thoughts on lessons learned regarding pandemics:

- My personal story is but one reinforcing that one-size-fits-all "solutions" for addressing medical challenges is a fallacy.
- The use of case numbers (based upon questionable validity of tests) rather than fatalities (directly FROM SARS-CoV-2) as benchmark criteria for shutdown provisions is deceptive statistical trickery.
- The overzealous interference with both the use of, and dissemination of information about, multiple "alternative" medical solutions that are viable/available has been as abusive as Cuomo, et. al., nursing home scandal.
- Identifying businesses/industries as essential/nonessential or off-limits is potentially unfounded, clearly discriminatory.
- I'm skeptical of official numbers, considering that among my vast circle of family/friends/acquaintances, most of advanced age, merely two hospitalized from SARS-CoV-2/zero fatalities.
- I know personally of medical personnel who've quit their jobs rather than continue participating with dubious treatments and skewed perceptions surrounding Covid-19, preserving their conscience.
- The public health/government/corporate policy "cures" associated with mandated shutdown specifications have proven to be far worse than the "disease", tragic.

I view shutdown requirements imposed on Texans, expanded contact tracing, amplified censorship as serious governmental overreach, likely unconstitutional, largely displacing the fundamental founding principle of personal responsibility for optimal health management. The disturbing rollout of hysteria coupled with heavy-handed mandates prompt lack of confidence the current HB 3 version ensures adequate protection of natural individual/property rights relative to special interests that benefit from crisis.

Geary Watson

Self

Runaway Bay, TX

This bill with the changes is a bad bill. It allows for too much overreach by the government. This bill needs to be scrapped and a more effective bill should be considered. I believe the people of Texas need more say regarding these issues.

Aliya Mathiesen

Self

Georgetown, TX

VOTE NO on HB3 INCLUDING the amended version. NO NO NO NO NO NO.

Tina Orebaugh, Professor

Self

Montgomery, TX

Governor Abbot

Just do the right thing. I don't care what they have over your head. You have to do the right thing . We should not have to wear masks anywhere. If I walk in a store they shouldn't say we have provisions .

The fraud election must be heard. Let's get Texas on the right track. Let's fix what is broken. We need our freedom back. We don't need this to be a way of getting more COVID and then quarantine us . Don't be a RINO.

God is watching. Make us proud .

Sincerely,

Math Professor ,

Tina Orebaugh

JoAnn Fleming

Grassroots America - We the People PAC

Flint, TX

We strongly oppose HB 3. Legislators should always be acutely mindful of their oath of office because that oath was designed to act as a solemn tether to constitutional government. Your duty is to act within your constitutionally limited role to protect individual life, individual rights (liberty), and property.

In assessing HB 3, which is allegedly under consideration for the purpose of clarifying the executive authority claimed under Chapter 418 during COVID-19, the fundamental question before the State Affairs Committee most certainly is "Does Chapter 418 – The Texas Disaster Act of 1975 violate the Texas Constitution?" The answer to that is clearly "yes."

Article 1, Section 28 of the TX Constitution states, "No power can suspend the laws of the state except the legislature." Throughout the "pandemic," the Governor of Texas made law, suspended law, fast tracked a multi-million-dollar contract, defined "essential" and "non-essential" businesses and workers, defined as "elective" any healthcare need outside of COVID-19, separated family members from loved ones in nursing homes, hospitals and long-term care facilities, and spent hundreds of millions of dollars (at least) without any input from the legislative branch. He refused to call the legislature into session. This refusal entirely eliminated the voice of the People – the "consent of the governed."

The Texas Constitution strictly limits the Governor's authority even in times of crisis. If the powers of a Governor are unlimited, allowing him/her to unilaterally suspend or infringe upon our Constitutional rights, for an unlimited duration, whenever he/she decides to declare an emergency, then our Constitutional rights are merely a façade. If you do anything short of curtailing the

unconstitutional overreach of the Governor – by reasserting the Constitutional authority of the legislature – then you will have failed the people of Texas.

HB 3 does not prohibit lockdowns, travel bans, or mask mandates, nor does it give anyone standing to challenge an illegal executive order in court. The civil liability protection, at best, does not help any business since any policy they adopt will be “willful.” At worst, it implies liability where there was none previously.

We strongly oppose the 10-member Pandemic Disaster Legislative Oversight Committee made up of the Lt. Governor, House Speaker, and hand-picked House and Senate Committee Chairs. This is an oligarchy that violates the republican (representative) form of government guaranteed by our Constitution. This Committee is no guaranteed “check and balance” on the executive branch, which endangers liberty!

We urge you to help the legislature take back its power! Vote down HB 3 and give Texans back their voice – the legislature. Place emphasis on the constitutionality of any legislation you consider. This is your first obligation under your oath of office. Those who hired you at the ballot box deserve nothing less!

Gloria Evans

Self

Dallas, TX

I believe this bill gives the Governor too much authority. I would like my legislator/representative to have a say in what happens in a Pandemic. There are contradictions with in the Bill that again gives the Governor too much authority. The bill does not address strengthening the role of the Legislature, which is the body charged with making laws in Texas. Very concerned about business owners, like myself, who are at the whim of unclear Bills. This bills says I will not be liable if I make reasonable effect to comply with federal, state, and local laws... And, who decides what is reasonable? As we have seen, many Governors still won't let businesses open...again what is reasonable, and how much will it cost me. There are some beneficial aspects to this law, re guns, tax rates, religious freedom, but they are already covered by existing laws, the Texas Constitution, or could be addressed in current law. Please vote NO.

Karen Starnes, BSN

Myself

Fort Worth, TX

As a former RN with 10+ years experience and my Bachelors of Science in Nursing, I have never seen such discrimination, negligence, and fear-mongering take place in my beloved state and country as I witnessed this past year. Effective treatments for this virus and its complications have been ignored or vilified by many in power. The power grab of many elected officials byway of frankly unconstitutional mask mandates, forced lockdowns, forced quarantine of healthy people, business closures, working people being labeled essential and non-essential, and blatant disregard for human rights is outrageous, morally wrong, and anti-freedom. My family and I have been discriminated against unmercifully by mask nazis despite our medical conditIons and religious beliefs that keep us from mask wearing. We have been forced by threat of arrest out of stores and public buildings because of this. I oppose HB3 in any form, and challenge this body elected by the people to uphold our God-given and Constitutionally protected rights to Life, Liberty, Property, bodily autonomy, religious liberty, and equality. A pandemic nor any emergency should ever supersede or suspend basic rights and human dignity. Elected officials shouldn't just listen to the medical professionals in government positions, but should branch out and listen to doctors and nurses that are actually treating and helping their patients recover even outpatient. So many deaths could have been prevented with common sense, de-escalation of fear, and depoliticization of the virus and is treatments. Personal responsibility should always come into play when dealing with “public health.” One size fits all medicine never works for the individual. Every life is precious and matters. No life is expendable “for the greater good.” The greater good doesn't exist. Only goodness and truth should be our pursuit and gold standard in medicine and in every individual case. Thank you for considering. Roll back power given to unelected Public Health officials and

entities, and limit power of the governor. Less government, more freedom. Let the people decide how to protect themselves. The majority of us still put our faith in Almighty God not government.

Jenna Howard

Self, Auditor

Crowley, TX

As a concerned Texas citizen, I urge you to vote NO on HB3. It does nothing to protect citizens from the executive overreach we experienced throughout 2020, such as unlawful mandates and executive orders and invasion of medical privacy by unlicensed individuals acting as medical professionals. Furthermore, it violates our Constitution by replacing our Legislature with a 10 member committee if the Legislature is not in session during a pandemic disaster. With all of the technology available to us today, there is no reason our Legislature cannot convene during a pandemic disaster.

Mark Ary

Phil King

Decatur, TX

Stop the madness. Why are we doing this in Texas? We are watching very closely. We will vote those out who don't hold the values of Texas when making law.
